THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XV.—NEW SERIES, No. 483.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1855. [PRICE 6d.

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ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION —Continued improvements, increased attractions, fresh decorations.

It is respectfully announced that Miss GLYN will RESUME her DRAMATIC READINGS on Thursday Evening, the 1st. of February, and continue them on Thursday Evenings, at Eight o'clock, until further notice. 1st. February, The MERCHANT of VENICE.

The LECTURES on CHEMISTRY, NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, and MECHANICS, as usual; with the REMARKABLE SCIENTIFIC NOVELTY, LECTURED on by J. H. PEPPER, Esq. of Professor WHEATSTONE'S EXPERIMENTS on the TRANSMISSION of SOUND, illustrated by a TELEPHONIC CONCERT.

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VIEWS of the WAR.

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WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Provision and Grocery trade.—Apply to A. GOODLIFFE, Nottingham.

WANTED, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT in the General Grocery and Provision Trade,—one who would conform to the rules of a Dissenting Family.—Apply to H. C. SHERBORN, Grocer, Odiham, Hants.

WANTED in a quiet Drapery Trade a YOUNG LADY of Christian principles and business habits, and who thoroughly understands the Mantle Trade. References required. Salary, £20 per annum.—Apply to DAVIS and SON, 104, and 105, High-street, Woolwich. Also WANTED an industrious Youth about 14 years old, and of good character. No premium required.

A YOUNG MAN having a few hours daily at his disposal, wishes to occupy them in WRITING, BOOK-KEEPING, or some other light and respectable employment.—Address, X. Y. Z., 30, Barford-street, Liverpool-road, Islington.

A WIDOW LADY, Member of a Christian church, of highly respectable connexion, is desirous of meeting with a confidential SITUATION, to superintend the domestic arrangements in a gentleman's family. Testimonials unexceptionable.—Address, A. B., Mr. Kirbey, News-agent, 118, Whitechapel-road, London.

SCHOLASTIC.—To be disposed of in consequence of the declining health of the lady, an old established PREPARATORY BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL, situated in a healthy locality, and within five miles of London-bridge.—Address, X., Messrs. C. and T. H. Palmer, 55, Gracechurch-street.

SCHOOL WANTED.—A Gentleman practically acquainted with tuition, would be happy to be informed of a locality where a respectable BOARDING or BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL might be opened with probability of success.—Communications, addressed to L. S., Mr. Barnes, Sadler, Nottingham, will be duly acknowledged.

GOVERNESS.—Wanted a Lady, of decidedly Christian character, experienced in tuition, and thoroughly competent to instruct in French, Music, Drawing, and Calisthenic exercises, in addition to the usual branches of an English education. Her pupils will be a little girl, 9 years old, and four younger boys,: the three eldest of whom will be entirely under her charge.—Apply to F. W., Post-office, Blackburn.

STATIONERY and PRINTING Business for Disposal in consequence of the proprietor retiring; situated in one of the main thoroughfares of the metropolis. About £600 required for stock, presses, &c., at a valuation.—Apply to Mr. LOUND, 60, Chancery-lane.

TO BRITISH SCHOOL COMMITTEES. WANTED, by an experienced Mistress, who has conducted two Schools in London, a re-engagement, either now or for Lady-day. Satisfactory testimonials will be given.—Address, ALPHA, Post-office, Malmsbury, Wilts.

TO GROCERS AND CHEESEMONGERS.—WANTED in the above, by a Young Man of experience; has a thorough knowledge of the Trade. Testimonials from late employers, between five and six years. Country preferred.—Address, A. B. C., No. 1, Queen's-terrace, St. John's-wood, London.

THE REV. N. JENNINGS, M.A., Avenue-road, St. John's-wood, is REMOVING to a Large House (No. 19, Regent's-villas), and has, therefore, room for a few more BOARDERS. His pupils re-assemble on the 30th January.

J. TURNER & SON, CABINET, CHAIR, and SOFA MANUFACTURERS, UPHOLSTERERS, and GENERAL FURNISHERS, 42, Great James's-street, Bedford-row: Manufactory, St. John's-road, Hoxton, London.

The Cottage or Mansion completely furnished in the most modern and elegant style, at manufacturers prices. Design and Price Books gratis on application.

TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION.—The last Choral Meeting of the Season will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, on TUESDAY EVENING, 6TH FEBRUARY. Pieces from Mendelssohn, Becker, &c., and Four Choruses from Handel's "Messiah" will be sung by the Choir. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Tickets, 6d. and 1s. each, may be had of Messrs. WARD & Co., Paternoster-row, and at the doors.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.—LECTURES on the WALDENSES, with incidents of a recent visit to the Vaudois Valleys, will be delivered by the Rev. H. J. ROPER, of Bristol, at the

Poultry Chapel	Tuesday,	Feb. 6, 1855
Surrey Chapel	Wednesday,	Feb. 7, 1855
Lock's-fields Chapel, Walworth	Thursday,	Feb. 8, 1855
Congregational Church, Middleton-road, Dalston	Friday,	Feb 9, 1855

Donations will be received at the close of each lecture in aid of the Missions of the Vaudois Church to the Italians. Service to commence at 7 o'clock.

DISEASES of the EAR.—ROYAL DISPENSARY for DISEASES of the EAR, DEAN-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

ESTABLISHED, 1816.

President—The Duke of BUCCLEUCH, K.G.

Treasurer—JOHN MASTERMAN, Esq., M.P.

Surgeon—WILLIAM HARVEY, Esq., F.R.C.S., 2, Soho-square.

At the Half Yearly Meeting, there were admitted on the books, 708 cases of various conditions of deafness and diseases of the Ear. The Public are earnestly entreated for subscriptions to support the daily increasing number of applicants, which will be thankfully received by Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand; Messrs. Masterman and Co., and at the Dispensary by

H. SMYTH, Secretary.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.—The ANNUAL MEETING of the friends of the above Society, will be held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-ST., FINSBURY, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 1855.

EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., TREASURER, will take the Chair.

TWO ADDRESSES will be delivered on the following subjects: "The Imperative Duty of the Disciples of Christ to Provide Chapel Accommodation for the Destitute Portion of the Population around them;" by the Rev. JAMES SPENCE, A.M., of Poultry Chapel. "The Encouragements to this Duty, Arising out of the Success of past Efforts;" by the Rev. GEORGE SMITH, Poplar. Other Ministers and Gentlemen are expected to address the Meeting.

Tea will be provided at Half-past Five o'Clock, and the Chair will be taken at Half-past Six o'Clock precisely.

Ladies are particularly invited to attend.

Tickets of admission may be obtained by application to Mr. Churchyard, Congregational Library.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES of this Association are—That all Education should be RELIGIOUS but, at the same time, SO FREE FROM SECTARIAN INFLUENCE, as to command the sympathy and co-operation of ALL DENOMINATIONS OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS; and that the STATE being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to VOLUNTARY EFFORT.

Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., 40, Lombard-street: or at the office of the Association, Walworth-place, Walworth London.

HENRY RICHARD, JOSEPH BARRETT, } Hon. Secs.

7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

WARMING LARGE BUILDINGS.—CUTLER and SONS respectfully state that they are prepared to contract for the erection of their improved VENTILATING AIR STOVES, for effectually and economically warming Churches, &c., which they undertake in every instance to guarantee, as well as their durability. A Stove may be seen in constant use at their Warehouse, 16, Great Queen-street, Long-acre.

NEW PUBLIC CEMETERIES.—Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., one of the vice-chairmen of the committee of the Protestant Dissenting Deputies, having given a notice of Motion in the House of Commons for an enquiry into the working of the new Cemetery Acts, the Committee of the Deputies are desirous of receiving communications from parties in the country as to the operation of the existing Laws in reference to Dissenters. Letters may be addressed to Mr. HULL TERRELL, the Secretary of the Protestant Dissenting Deputies, 30, Basinghall-street, London.

PUBLIC CEMETERY CONVEYANCE. —Well-appointed Hearses leave daily for the different New Cemeteries of the Metropolis—Charge for conveyance of Adults, 16s.; Children, 7s. Mourning Coaches follow (when required), charge for each mourner 5s. there and back. Orders received by ANTILL and Co., 65, Judd-street, St. Pancras; 6, Crawford-street, Marylebone; and 150, Blackfriars-road, Surrey. Adults First-class Carriage Funeral, and Grave in a Cemetery at Tooting, Finchley, or Hanwell, including every expense, £10; Second ditto, £6; Third-class, £3 10s.; Children's ditto, £1 10s. See Prospectus.

REMOVAL.—Mr. W. H. HALSE, the Professor of Medical Galvanism, informs his FRIENDS that he has REMOVED from Brunswick-square to WALPOLE LODGE, 51, FINCHLEY-ROAD, ST. JOHN'S-WOOD, LONDON. Send Two Stamps for Postage of his Gratuitous Pamphlet on "Medical Galvanism."

Invalids will be astonished at its contents.

Terms, One Guinea a Week. Mr. Halse particularly recommends Galvanism for General Debility, Loss of Power in any part, and Spermatorrhœa.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, 4, Cromer-terrace, Grange-road, Dalston.

The MISSES MACKENZIE receive and educate Young Ladies in a superior manner with the comforts of Home.—Terms reasonable.—References to Ministers and Parents of Pupils. Apply for circular as above.

TO SCHOOL ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, an EXPERIENCED SCHOOL ASSISTANT, in an academy in Dorsetshire. He must be thoroughly qualified to teach Arithmetic in all its branches, and also Land Measuring.

Salary, besides board and washing, £20 per annum.

To one desirous of a favourable position for completing a course of classical studies and acquiring a knowledge of the French and German languages, this is a highly eligible situation.—Application with testimonials to be addressed, W. L. M., Post-office, Blandford.

HYDE PARK SCHOOL, HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.—The course of instruction includes the Latin, Greek, French, and German languages; Chemistry, Drawing, and Drilling, together with the usual branches of a good English education.

Quarters commence January 30th, April 10th, July 31st, and October 9th, 1855.

Terms may be had on application to the Rev. R. Brewer.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH, conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYMOUTH, M.A. (of University College, London), M.R.A.S., &c. &c., assisted by well qualified and experienced Masters.

The Course of Studies pursued at this Establishment is suitable as preparatory either for a College Course or for Professional or Commercial Life.

The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

Terms, from 35 to 45 guineas per annum.

HOMERTON COLLEGE, the Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Education.

The next Session commences April 1st, 1855, when there will be Vacancies for Male and Female Students. Applications for admission into the College, and for Teachers, to be addressed to the Principals, the Rev. W. J. UNWIN, M.A., The College, Homerton, near London. As applications from Schools have frequently to be declined from want of suitable Teachers, a Register is kept of Teachers holding the principles of the Board who are in want of Situations. WILLIAM BUTT, Hon. Sec.

TOTTENHAM LADIES COLLEGE.—The ELMS. Under the general superintendence of the Misses WILSON. Particulars, with an entire list of the Professors and Teachers, from which the following is extracted, may be had on application as above.

The Bible and its Literature—Rev. W. H. Stowell, D.D.

Mental and Moral Philosophy—Rev. John Hoppus, LL.D., F.R.S.

Botany, Geology, and Natural History—Trevethan Spicer, LL.D.

Latin, English, and the Mathematics—Mr. Orlando Balls.

Music, the Pianoforte—Mons. Jules Benedict, and Mr. Silas.

Special arrangements are made for the preparatory training and accommodation of the Junior Pupils.

The TERM will commence FEBRUARY 1.

SYDENHAM—PERRY-HILL HOUSE SEMINARY—Principal, Mrs. J. W. TODD.—This establishment offers a complete English education; the best instruction in Latin, German, Italian, and French, by native professors; and Drawing, Painting, Music, &c. by the First masters. The system of Tuition pursued recognises the diversified native capabilities of the pupils and is adapted to develop their individual energies and give them confidence in exercising their own powers of thought and enquiry—and, by forming their characters on the basis of intelligent religious principle, to fit them for their missions and responsibilities in life. The Mansion and grounds are elevated and secluded—situate in a most lovely and healthy locality—and in a position to command all the educational advantages furnished by the PALACE OF ART. Full particulars by Post.

Referees:—H. Brown, Esq., M.P., Tewkesbury; Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., Staines; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour, Paddington; the Revs. Dr. Redford, Worcester; Dr. Andrews, Northampton; Thomas Thomas, Pontypool College; F. Trestrail, Secretary to the Baptist Mission; A. M. Stalker, Leeds; J. P. Mursell, Leicester; S. J. Davis, London; T. Winter and G. H. Davis, Bristol; J. J. Brown, Reading; C. J. Middleditch and S. Manning, Frome; J. Purser, Esq., Rathmines Castle, Dublin; J. Toone, Esq., Salisbury; Daniel Pratt, Esq., London; H. and W. Todd, Esqrs., Dublin; J. C. Salisbury, Esq., City Road.

THE IDONEOUS TROUSERS.—An excellent fitting Garment, unsurpassed for ease, elegance, and comfort, in sitting, walking, and ESPECIALLY RIDING. Modern and best materials only employed. First price, One Guinea. Also, a large assortment of every style of Garment suitable for the present season, ready for immediate use, or to order at moderate charges. Particulars for self-measurement, &c., sent by post.

HENRY L. MARSHALL, 516 and 517, New Oxford-street Entrance corner of Duke-street, leading to the British Museum.

ABSTRACT REGARDING ECONOMY in CLOTHES, from the *Times*, October 26th, 1854.

"Every yard of cloth sold at *The London Cloth Establishment* is sold at the *Wholesale Price*, and gentlemen who purchase cloth at the London Cloth Establishment may (if they wish) have it made up on the premises, at the expense only of the workman's wages, in addition to the price of the trimmings."

The economy of this system is proved by the saving of from 30 to 50 per cent. in the price of every garment, besides the very obvious advantage of selection from such a stock, and the guarantee of a superior fit, good taste, and the best work.

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Every description of Assurance effected upon equitable terms. Eight-tenths of the profits divided amongst the Assured.

Prospectuses to be had on application.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

LOANS, AT £5 PER CENT. PER ANNUM, FROM £20 TO £1,000.

NEW NATIONAL LIFE, FIRE, AND LOAN COMPANY.

484, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury, London.

THOMAS BOURNE, Resident and Managing Secretary.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND

SOCIETY.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the NATIONAL PERMANENT MUTUAL BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY, commonly called the NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on THURSDAY, the 15th of February next, at Half-past Six in the Evening, and that a special General Meeting will be held immediately at the close of the Annual Meeting to take into consideration the proposed alteration of Rule 9, in accordance with a requisition dated November 21, 1854.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street, 20th January, 1855.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.—BANK OF

DEPOSIT, NATIONAL ASSURANCE AND INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION, No. 2, Pall Mall East, London. Established A.D. 1844. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

The Warrants for the Half-yearly Interest, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on Deposit Accounts, to 31st December, are ready for delivery, and payable daily.

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Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to examine the plan of the BANK OF DEPOSIT. Prospectuses and Forms for Opening Accounts sent free on application.

ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY,

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CAPITAL: £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each.
With power to increase to One Million.

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The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium, which are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and the terms of its Loan business. It offers to the Assured the security of a large subscribed Capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per Cent. of the Profits being divided amongst the Policy-holders every five years.

POLICIES ARE INDISPUTABLE.

NO CHARGE is made for POLICY STAMPS OR MEDICAL FEES

ONE THIRD of the Premiums on Assurances of £500 is allowed to remain unpaid, and continues as a claim on the Policy.

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LOANS are granted to Policy-holders on liberal terms. A Policy of the amount only of the sum borrowed, being as collateral security, required.

For the convenience of the WORKING CLASSES Policies are issued as low as £20, at the same Rates as larger Assurances.

Premiums may be paid Quarterly, Half-yearly, or Annually.

Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premium required for any contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at the Chief Office, 23, Cannon-street, or of the Secretary.

HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

INSTITUTED 1831.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE MUTUAL

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

(Incorporated by Royal Charters, and Special Act of Parliament.)

Head Office—EDINBURGH—26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE.
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The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY is an Institution peculiarly adapted to afford Provision for Families. It was established in the year 1831, upon the principle of MUTUAL CONTRIBUTION, the Surplus or Profit being wholly divisible among the Members; and the Additions which have been made to Policies at the Periodical Investigations of the Society afford satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the Institution, and the great advantages derived by its Members. The following Examples exhibit the Additions already made:—

A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1832, is now increased to £1,523 8s.

A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1836, is now increased to £1,421 16s. 10d.

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The Profits are ascertained and divided triennially among Policies of more than five years' duration.

The Annual Revenue is upwards of £150,000.

The Amount of Assurances in force is upwards of Four Millions and a Quarter Sterling.

The amount paid to the Representatives of Deceased Members exceeds £600,000 sterling.

The Total Amount of Vested Additions allocated to Policies exceeds £200,000.

The Accumulated Fund is upwards of £830,000.

Loans granted to Members to the extent of the office value of their Policies.

Copies of the Annual Report, Forms of Proposal, and all information may be had on application at any of the Society's Offices in town or country.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.
WILLIAM FINLAY, Secretary.
W. COOK, Agent.

January, 1855. 126, Bishopsgate-street, London.

LIST OF LOCAL AGENTS.

BARNES—Whitbread, Edward, Stationer.
BATTERSEA—Buckmaster, J. C., New-road, St. John's-hill.
BRIXTON—Price, J. M., Chemist, 2, Loughborough-place.
CLAPHAM—Balls, Charles, Scientific and Literary Institution.
COMMERCIAL-ROAD EAST—Newton, J., 6, Grosvenor-street.
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SOLICITOR.—Septimus Davidson, Esq.

CONSULTING ACTUARY.—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.

Abstract of the REPORT of the Directors for 1854:—

"The number of policies issued during the year		1,302
Assuring the sum of	£583,074 0 0	
Annual premiums thereon	19,624 8 8	
Policies issued from the commencement of the institution in December, 1853		17,494
Policies now in force		13,175
Annual Income—From Premiums (after deducting £38,346 abatement allowed)	£177,999 5 9	
Ditto—From Interest on invested capital	44,073 7 7	
		£222,078 13 4
Amount returned to members in abatement of premiums		245,134 11 8
Amount of bonuses added to sums assured		196,564 0 0
Amount paid in claims by death from the commencement of the institution		441,369 11 11
Balance of receipts over the disbursements in the year		117,669 6 0
Increasing the capital stock of the institution to		1,092,166 9 8"

At the last division of surplus profits made up to Nov. 20, 1852, the reductions varied from 5 to 25 per cent. on the original amount of premiums, according to the age of the member, and the time the policy had been in force; and the bonuses ranged in like manner from 50 to 75 per cent. on the amount of premiums received during the preceding five years.

The proposal brought forward by a few of the members at the general meeting, held on the 10th instant, to change the period of division of surplus profits from quinquennial to triennial was negatived.

Prospectuses and other information may be obtained on application at the Office.

January 12, 1855. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

One Hundred *more* shares issued at the first meeting than ever issued by the *first* societies.

INDEPENDENT BUILDING SOCIEY,

No. 3, Shares, £60; Entrance, 1s.; Subscription, 5s., Monthly.—Unprecedented success attended the WEST LONDON DISSENTERS' and INDEPENDENT BUILDING SOCIETIES, which issued 4,000 shares to 1,600 members, and advanced £150,000. This society, established under the same management, and anticipating support from so vast a proprietary, has already made gratifying progress, rendering its success certain. Its leading features are:—The full value of property promptly advanced—borrowers enabled to redeem their properties, being allowed 5 per cent. discount—fixed at ten years' duration—no ballot—6 per cent. guaranteed on withdrawal—mutual benefits—fixed low charges.

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS will be offered to competition at the Second Subscription Meeting, which will be held on TUESDAY, the 13th of FEBRUARY, 1855, from 7 to 8 o'clock, at Wardour Chapel School, Chapel-street, Wardour-street, Soho.

Prospectuses and Shares issued daily by the Secretary,

Mr. HOLCOMBE, 3, Oldham-place, Bagnigge-wells-road, near Exmouth street.

GRAND NATIONAL CEMETERY

FUNERAL COMPANY.—Having shares in three companies, about seven miles out of town, viz., at Finchley, Tooting, and Harrow, will undertake Adult Carriage Funerals and a Grave at either of the above cemeteries at the following charges:—First Class, £10. Second Class, £6. Third Class, £3 10s. Childrens' Carriage Funeral and Grave, £1 10s. The above includes every charge for the whole funeral.—Address, ANTILL and COMPANY, 65, Judd-street, New-road, and 150, Blackfriars-road, London.

COCOA containing, as it does, a farinaceous

substance and a bland oil, is a most valuable article of diet. To adapt it, however, to delicate stomachs, it is essential that the farinaceous substance be perfectly incorporated with the oily, so that the one prevents the other from separating. Such union exists in the Cocoa here presented. The delightful flavour, in part dependant on the oil, is fully developed, and the whole preparation made grateful to the weakest digestion.

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Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.
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82, Old Broad-street, City.

In regard to purity, see the Report of the Analytical Sanitary Commission in the *Lancet*, July 5, 1851.

IMPORTANT to EMIGRANTS and the

PUBLIC GENERALLY. PLUMBE'S SOUTH SEA ARROW-ROOT.—The genuine and superior qualities of this article have long established it in public estimation. It is greatly preferred by the most eminent Physicians in London for Invalids, and as the best food for infants. It also forms a light nutritious diet for general use, and is most valuable in all cases of Diarrhœa. It is strongly recommended for Cholera; acting as a preventive it should be used freely during the Epidemic.

Directions accompanying each packet, which bears the signature of A. S. PLUMBE, 3, ALIE-PLACE, GREAT ALIE-STREET, WHITECHAPEL. Agents appointed in all parts of Town and Country. Retailed in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, Islington; Morgan, Sloane-street; Williams, Moorgate-street; Medes, Camberwell; Poulton, Hackney; and others.

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HILL, Inventors and Sole Manufacturers of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS, at 17s. 6d. Unequalled for Superior Style, Fit, Quality, Perfect Ease, and Gracefulness, so requisite for gentlemanly appearance, and so rarely obtained. The advantage of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS over all others is the systematical self-adjusting principle on which they are constructed. Patterns and Guide to Self-measurement sent free.

SAMUEL, BROTHERS' Stock of OVERCOATS for the PRESENT SEASON is worthy of your inspection, combining three requisites—quality, style, and *moderate price*.

Ready-made Clothes equal to bespoke—an advantage not to be obtained at any other Establishment.

Dress Coats	21s. to 42s.	Talma	5s. to 50s.
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THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

GO IN AND WIN.

"WIN!" We commence the Parliamentary campaign with a determination to win. Duty has usually been our object—now it is success. We will struggle this session, not so much for remote as for immediate results. Our point of attack shall be selected with a view to triumph. We mean to fight a great battle, and to achieve a victory. Our purpose is TO ABOLISH CHURCH RATES.

It *may be* done. It is within the compass of possibility. The confusion of parties brought about by the war will help rather than impede us, if we are but true to ourselves. The strong will is all that is needed—concentration of energy upon a single purpose. Last year we forced the removal of religious tests at Oxford against an opposing ministry. We can do the same this year with Church Rates. If our friends will do their part without flinching, they shall be led on to victory. A House of Commons' majority on this question is within their reach—rather, let us say, is at their command. Let them speak and they will not speak in vain.

It *must be* done. The question will not be allowed to hang over. If we do not settle it, others will, but not in our sense. They will attempt compromise, even if we postponed abolition. Fight we must, either on the offensive, or the defensive. There can be no question on which plan the advantage will lie. The first in the field will command the best position. We must wait for no one—dance attendance upon no administration—sacrifice nothing to official *etiquette*—defer to no ministerial convenience. A fig for appearances! Never mind Mrs. Grundy! The Church-rate system must be extinguished this session, or in some other shape it will be rivetted upon us for another half-century. Now, or never.

It is *worth doing*—both as an end, a means, and an exercise. Regarded as *an end*, complete in itself, separate from all ulterior consequences, it is a battle that we may well be proud to win. What bitter feuds will it extinguish! What acts of petty tyranny will it prohibit! What a vast deal of bad blood will it prevent! Social quiet, and uninterrupted good neighbourhood will gain incalculably by it. Many a doubtful conscience will it relieve. And, certainly, it will wipe away a foul stain from the reputation of our common Christianity. Even as *a means* to something further, it is not to be despised. Whenever the Church-rate system is destroyed, it will render insecure a number of reprehensible customs of politico-ecclesiastical administration, which are in some respects analogous to, as well as interlaced with it. As a grievance, it has undoubtedly acted as a spur to the indolent, and a motive to the selfish—but as a grievance annihilated, it will be succeeded by new hopes, and increased confidence. Then, as *an exercise*, what improves the *morale* of troops so much as an important triumph? What so inspirits them, or prompts to such noble enterprize, as self-reliance? In all respects, therefore, the prize is worth gaining.

Let it be settled, then, that the thing can be done, and that it is to be done *forthwith*. Now for the *modus operandi*, so far, at least, as out-door work is concerned.

We have already intimated that there exists in the House of Commons sufficient material for our purpose. It has but to be judiciously, but imperatively, pressed into our service. Not that we can calculate upon much *active* desire, on the part of the Legislature, to put a period to this annoying and humiliating system. A compromise of it would probably best suit the present temper of the people's representatives. But on the other hand, a majority of them have got over any fears they might once have entertained that the surrender of Church Rates, would be tantamount to the closing of many Church of England edifices, and have ceased to identify ecclesiastical taxation with national religion. The census has convinced them that the Church can do without her rates. Personally, therefore, they have no very strong feeling either for or against the system. Their sense of justice would incline them to assent to its abolition—habit, perhaps, would dispose them to retain it. Our readers will at once perceive that here is a rich quarry out of which constituencies, intent upon extinguishing Church Rates, may obtain a large number of favourable votes. What tune shall be played depends first upon the capability of the instrument, and then upon the will and skill of the player. We say that, in this instance, the instrument *is* capable—the rest must be left to those in whose hands the instrument is politically held.

Now, we are no advocates of rudely dictating to members what votes they shall give on any special occasion, in discharge of the high trust which has been confided to their discretion. No man of ordinary self-respect would allow himself to be thus coerced. Nor is there the slightest necessity for resorting to such a practice, because few are the representatives who do not wish to know what, on any given questions, are the views and feelings of his most active supporters. We think that in regard to Church Rates, members of Parliament are entitled to this knowledge. It is precisely one of those questions on which a man's vote may decide the fate of his candidature at the next election. In the absence of proper information, he may unwittingly put a premature end to his political life. Justice to him, therefore, demands that he should be made acquainted with the views of his constituents, and with the degree of importance which they attach to them. Generally speaking, a member is naturally anxious to be in harmony with any portion of his political supporters who feel deeply on any subject, more especially, if he is disposed to think that they have right on their side. What he might not have cared a rush for on his own account, he may very properly take a lively interest in on theirs. We counsel, therefore, as the most indispensable, and important practical step to be taken in this matter, a courteous, conciliatory, and intimate communication between constituents and their members. Perhaps, some simple local organisation will be requisite to secure this effectively—but on this point, it is rather the business of a society than a journalist to give advice.

The next point to be attended to is petitioning. It is a mistake to suppose that this is a fruitless expenditure of strength. An unintermitting flow of petitions on any given question, acts upon the atmosphere of thought which envelopes the House, like a rill of clear cold water upon a region of stagnation. It puts in motion what would but for it continue close, suffocating, and immoveable. The removal of religious tests at Oxford was immensely aided last year by the number of public petitions. They are of incalculable use in preparing the way for subsequent discussion, and in carrying off that settled indifference which no argument can reach, and upon which no appeal can take effect. This, however, is a work which, to be really effective, should be done well. Three points are to be specially attended to. 1. Every distinct body that can be got to take an interest in the question should send a petition. 2. Every petition, as far as practicable, should be *original*. Many copies from one model are devoid of weight. 3. All petitions should be sent for presentation to the *local* members, if possible. It is bad policy to withdraw the work from them merely because they are known to be opposed to the prayer. No member will decline to present a petition from his own constituents, if it be respectfully worded, whatever his individual sentiments may be—and as the rules of the House prevent any from accompanying the presentation with a single word of comment, the duty can be as efficiently performed by an objecting as by a sympathizing member. The constituents, therefore, can lose nothing by entrusting their petition to their own member, even when his opinion is the very opposite of theirs—and the effect upon the member himself is beneficial. It lets him into a knowledge of what is passing in his own constituency—it brings up before him topics which he would gladly ignore—and often if it does not prevail upon him to say "Aye," it prevents him from hastily saying "No."

These, then, are the two main duties which devolve upon our friends out of doors. Let these duties be thoroughly well performed, and there are those who will answer for the rest. The direction of the movement, we think we can engage, will not be neglected. Ours is no inefficient staff, like that in the Crimea, owing their position to nepotism and corruption. Their zeal has been proved, and they are not without experience. They know what they have undertaken, and they are sanguine of success. Let their directions, as soon as received, be implicitly attended to—let every man resolve to do his own duty promptly and unswervingly—and we will "*go in and win.*"

THE IRISH REGIUM DONUM.

(From the *United Presbyterian Magazine.*)

An important document has been recently published. It is the return to an order of the House of Commons regarding the Irish *Regium Donum*, which was moved for by Mr. Hadfield on the 20th July, 1854.* Parliamentary reports, especially when they abound in large columns of figures, are not the most attractive literary compositions; and we desire to remember this fact, when giving some account of the one now before us. Before doing so, however, it may not be out of place to make a remark or two as to the history of this famous grant. At the commencement of the seventeenth century, a number of Presbyterian ministers from Scotland settled in the north of Ireland. They were received as ministers of the Established Church, and were supported from the tithes of the soil. Cromwell took the tithes from them, which they have never possessed since. Charles II., that eminently pious monarch, endeavoured to make amends for the cruelty of the Protector, by an annual grant of between five and six hundred pounds, but which was taken away before his death. William of Orange bestowed an annual grant £1,200, which has experienced no interruption, and which has gradually expanded to the somewhat respectable proportions of more than £40,000. In 1804, when a new arrangement was taking place, the churches founded by the Scotch Seceders in the preceding century were made partners in the transaction, and received an allowance, though an inferior one, from the Government. Ireland has uniformly exhibited a remarkable talent for begging, and she seems to impart this faculty to all who remove to her sacred soil. To beg she has never been ashamed; and, to do her justice, she has met with no ordinary measure of success in this species of intellectual exertion. We know no country in the world, where the parable of the Importunate Widow is so well understood as in the land of St. Patrick, and where its great moral lesson is so faithfully carried out in practice. "Though I fear not God, nor regard man, yet, because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me."

As regards doctrine, there are two sections of Presbyterians in the receipt of Government aid. The

* Returns relating to the theological and other professors and pensioners at Belfast receiving money from parliamentary grants; —of the congregational income of the ministers of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and any denomination of Non-conformists in Ireland, who received portions of the parliamentary grant of 1853; of the sums paid to ministers, or funds for the benefit of widows of ministers, from the same; and of denominations of Protestant Non-conformists in Ireland which do not receive any grant of money for their professors, ministers, widows of ministers, or otherwise howsoever.—(*Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 12th August.*

great body of them adhere to the Westminster Confession of Faith. A small section are Unitarian, some Arian, and others Socinian. The Arian and Socinian heresies of the churches in England during the former half of the eighteenth century were transplanted to Ireland, and there they still continue, under the fostering wing of State pay. This Unitarian section call themselves the non-subscribing Presbyterians, because they decline to sign any creed. There are at present fifty of these congregations, and 468 congregations who subscribe the Westminster Confession Faith. Assuming the returns to be correct, these two sections of Presbyterians would form a body about as large as the United Presbyterian Church. At all events, the estimate cannot be far from the truth.

Let us now examine, in the first place, what information is furnished in the report, with respect to the theological professors at the Belfast College. There are at present four professors who have retired on a salary of £150. The staff of the General Assembly's (the orthodox section) Theological College stands thus: "This college comprises at present the six following chairs, namely,—Systematic Theology, Dr. Edgar; Biblical Criticism, Dr. Wilson; Church History, Dr. Killen; Christian Ethics, Mr. Gibson; Hebrew, Dr. Murphy; Sacred Rhetoric and Catechetics, Dr. Cooke." There was a seventh professor during last session, but it was resolved in July 1854, by the assembly, to discontinue the chair of Biblical and Ecclesiastical Greek which he occupied. No professor is allowed to retain a pastoral charge. Each of them has a salary from government of £250. In some of the classes there is a fee of two guineas; in others, there appears to be no fee. Dr. Cooke has, in addition, an allowance of £320 for distributing the *regium donum*. There are no returns from Professors Edgar and Gibson, for which act of disobedience to their paymasters they richly deserve to lose their appointmentments. We have thus no means of ascertaining the exact number of theological students in the seminary. Professor Wilson reports 37; Professor Killen 49; Professor Murphy 14; Professor Cooke 80, of whom there are only 48 students in theology, if we understand his report aright. Judging from the elements of calculation which are given us, we have a pretty strong conviction that the number of theological students does not exceed fifty. This is worth looking at. If so, there were last session seven professors for fifty students—a pretty fair proportion, it must be admitted. If these Irish ministers are not duly qualified for the discharge of their duties, no one can say it is owing to the want of teachers. Let us look at the expense of this institution. Divide the salaries of the seven professors by the number of the students, and what is the result? It is this: That the education of each student, during the six months' session of 1853-54 cost the country £35. We do not presume to decide upon the character of the manufactured article, but, most unquestionably, if the expense of production be considered, we have a right to expect something very superior.

The theological hall of the non-subscribing association has two professors—the Rev. Dr. Montgomery, Professor of Moral, Philosophy, Pastoral Theology and Ecclesiastical History; and the Rev. J. Scott Porter, Professor of Hebrew and Theology. When we get into the interior of this theological hall, we are introduced to matters still more startling than those which we saw in the other! How many students has Professor Porter? It would prove an excellent New Year's puzzle to our readers to answer this question! How many?—FOUR! How many has Professor Montgomery?—THREE! The three students of Dr. Montgomery are all in Mr. Porter's class, for the names are duly recorded in this document; so that there are just four students under the care of these two learned professors. The teachers receive each a salary of £150. Apply a simple process in arithmetic, and the conclusion is arrived at, that each of the students cost the country £75 for his training, during the last session of college. This is assuredly a sufficiently large sum to pay for the education of a student. Nor will our readers be less reluctant to allow the account to be passed, when they remember that this expense is occurred in order to teach men to deny the divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Dr. Montgomery is good-natured enough to remind us, that "the time and labour of teaching, however, are not perceptibly affected by the number of students; for a professor must go over his entire course with one student as well as with fifty; and I can personally aver that my last session, with only three pupils, was the most laborious through which I ever passed." It is so far satisfactory to be informed, from the best of all possible authorities, that the professor did not eat the bread of idleness, though he had only three students under his care. And Mr. Porter, as if afraid that there would be some uncharitable criticisms expended upon his "beggarly account of empty boxes," also tells how hard he has had to work for his money. "Each session I am really conducting three classes every day in the week, except Saturday and Sunday—viz., a junior Hebrew class, a senior Hebrew class, and a theological class; during the session ended 1st May, 1854, however, I had no junior Hebrew student." Now, we do not wish to be understood as saying that the gentlemen have too large salaries; we only mean to assert that they should not be professors, unless there was a better demand for their services.

The professors of the non-subscribing association have congregations. Mr. Porter has £92 6s. 2d. in the name of *Regium Donum*; the congregation of which he is one of the pastors raises £240. Suppose that he has £120 as his share of stipend, his annual income will be £362 6s. 2d. The position of Dr. Montgomery is much more favourable: Professor's salary, £150; *Regium Donum*, £92 6s. 2d.; pew rents, £69 9s. 1½d.; "with a pleasant manse and farm, worth about £60 per annum;" salary, as distributor of *Regium Donum*, £230; so that his total income is £601 15s. 3½d. A very pleasant income indeed, and one which has peculiar powers for making a person rest satisfied with things as they are. It need not surprise any one, that Dr. Montgomery never led on a crusade against the Irish Episcopal Establishment, or the Popish endowment of Maynooth—he has always had more sense.

The second part of the report refers to the churches in receipt of the parliamentary grant.

We learn from another document now before us, that a congregation may receive an endowment, provided certain conditions have been fulfilled, during the three preceding years. The congregation must have had a place of worship and an ordained minister. The congregation must consist at least of twelve Presbyterian families, or fifty Presbyterian individuals; and the minister must have received a salary of £35, of which £20 was contributed by the congregation itself. Provision is made for some exceptions. Again, no congregation is entitled to have the parliamentary grant continued, unless conditions similar to the above are fulfilled. There are some exceptions here too. But the most important is this: That ministers who were endowed before the 1st January, 1839, retain their allowances, whether the conditions are fulfilled or not. Again, there are two classes of government salaries. The higher is £92 6s. 2d. All who were in possession of this salary on the 1st January, 1839, retain it during their incumbency, on the termination of which their successors will receive only the lower salary, £69 4s. 8d. Provision is thus made for the permanent reduction of all the higher salaries.

There are 518 congregations in all, though there are a few more ministers. What stipends do they give their ministers, in addition to the government endowment of £92 6s. 2d., or £69 4s. 8d? We have gleaned a few facts:—

There are only 42 who contribute more than £100.
" 279 who do not contribute more than £35.
" 176 who contribute less than £30.
" 45 who contribute less than £20.
" 11 who contribute less than £10.

Nor is it to be supposed, that the small sums are always contributed by small congregations. Here is a case which has just met our eye. It is the church at Corronary, whose minister is the Rev. Samuel Crookshanks. His congregation consists of 220 families, or 1100 persons. There ought to be about 500 persons in his place of worship every Sabbath; and the membership, according to the usual calculations, should not be less than 400. What, then does this congregation raise?—£27 4s. 5d., which is less than *sixpence* each person. Here is another specimen of Christian liberality. The church is at Corlea; the minister is the Rev. John Parr. The congregation consists of fifty-eight families, or 251 persons. The sum raised is £6 10s. The average is *sixpence* each person. We must furnish a third specimen. The church is at Loughgall. The congregation consists of 140 families, or 700 persons. The sum contributed by a church of this size is £12 9s. 9d., which is little more than *fourpence* each person.

We have made some general calculations. The total amount contributed by the congregations in receipt of the parliamentary grants, for the support of their ministers, is £21,471 12s. 9d. The average stipend is upwards of £41. The average number of families in each congregation is 142, amounting to between 600 or 700 persons. The number of families altogether is 73,560; and probably a membership of 140,000 or 150,000. The average sum paid by each family is less than six shillings—say three shillings for each member. And it may be laid down as a general rule, that for every shilling which is given by the Government, the congregation raises a sixpence.

We are now in a condition to make some comparisons, some of the materials of which are derived from the report of the committee on statistics, which was presented to our synod, in May 1853. The seat rents for the year were calculated to be £54,000, a sum which, if set apart for ministerial stipends, would give an average of £106. The average stipend of the Irish Presbyterians is about £41. The very collections at out church doors (£48,000) furnishes a sum more than double of what the Irish Presbyterians raised for ministerial stipends. The average sum contributed by each member of the United Presbyterian Church for the support of the Gospel at home and abroad is £1 1s. Add one shilling to the three shillings of ministerial stipend, and the probability is, that four shillings represents the whole amount contributed by each member of the Irish Presbyterian Church, for all religious objects whatever. Even in the poorer churches, which receive aid from our supplemental fund, the average contribution of each member is fifteen shillings. And with regard to our theological hall, what a contrast! It numbers about 200 students, and the average expense of each to the church is £2, 10s.

There are several other topics in the report, to which we might have adverted. The widows' ministerial fund received an aid of £712 3s. 4d. from the parliamentary grant. It is made up from the allowances to vacant congregations. The very clerk's fees (£152 5s. 8d.) are paid from the public funds, and the Rev. Joseph Hutton receives £30 for distributing the salaries among the eight ministers of the Presbytery of Munster. No work done without money, and the people can do nothing for themselves that they can help.

It will not do to plead the poverty of Ireland for such a disreputable state of things. The north of Ireland is not a poor country. It is the seat of manufactures. It is distinguished from the other parts of Ireland by the intelligence, industrial energy, and morality of its inhabitants. Nothing can account for their scandalous support of the Gospel among themselves, or their deficient activity in extending it to others, except that pauperised spirit, which has been infused into them by the receipt of public money. When a man is placed on the poor-list, he never acquires energy to support himself or his family until the parish allowance be taken from him, and he thrown upon his own resources, and compelled to labour for his bread, like other honest men. And in no other manner can we explain the melancholy fact, that Presbyterianism has been so barren in results compared with what it might have been had she rejected the base bribe, and said, "Thy money perish with thee." How dare the orthodox Presbyterians utter one word against Maynooth, when they themselves are receiving money from the same exchequer? and, after all, how can they speak of the errors of Popery as a reason for withdrawing the Maynooth grant, when associated with themselves are ministers who are tainted with the Arian and Socinian heresies? He who attacks Maynooth must have clean hands; and if his words would be listened to otherwise than with a mocking sneer, the orator must put it out of the power of any of his audience to apply to him the ancient proverb: "Physician heal thyself." Meanwhile, we remind them that the Irish *Regium Donum* is doomed to the same fate as the English. There is a body of determined men in the House of Commons, who are resolved to carry on the Voluntary warfare upon every ecclesiastical estimate, and they know the importance of this grant. Its friends may be saved from defeat for a few years by the aid of the Papal Brigade, but that is not an auxiliary in which they can feel much gratification. The grant is doomed, as is also the sister grant to Maynooth. A regard to the spiritual welfare of those Churches whose energies are paralyzed by this degrading bribe of the State, a desire to see the ministers whose hands are now polluted with it standing erect in the dignity of Christian freemen, and occupying that position in society to which they are entitled, and an undoubted conviction that this grant is a mere outwork of the Irish Establishment, and that it is through it and through Maynooth that we are to reach the heart of the citadel; these and other reasons which might be adduced are leading many to the opinion, that there must be no longer any false delicacy exercised, even in the case of good men whom we respect, and that the axe must be laid to the root of the tree. These returns will do good service—they will fill many a quiver with arrows.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

ROCHDALE.—On the 19th, Mr. Miall, M.P., Dr. Foster, and Mr. Pryce, attended as a deputation at Rochdale, whereon influential gathering assembled; and after partaking of tea, listened to the statements of the deputation with great attention and frequent applause. The chair was taken by John Petrie, Esq., who was supported by H. Kelsall, Esq., R. Kelsall, Esq., J. Pagan, Esq., Rev. F. Burchell, G. Ashworth, Esq., and other gentleman. Much satisfaction was expressed with the tactics and general policy of the Society, and a resolution unanimously agreed upon to "afford increased support to its now greatly extended operations." The Chairman and other local gentlemen expressed themselves strongly to the effect that Rochdale must do more than it had done, and a subscription was at once commenced, which promises to more than double the amount of the past year.

OSSETT, NEAR WAKEFIELD.—On Monday evening, January 22nd, a meeting was held in the school-room, belonging to the Independent Chapel in this manufacturing village. Philip Ellis, Esq., one of the leading manufacturers, was in the chair; and the principles and proceedings of the Society were explained by Rev. Edward S. Pryce and Mr. W. Hickman Smith. The attendance was numerous, and the Rev. S. Oddy expressed his entire satisfaction with the manner in which the Society's claims were advocated. All present manifested great earnestness, and a liberal subscription was commenced.

HASTINGS.—The Liberation Society has paid its first visit here, a *soiree* having been held on the 23rd of January, at which Mr. Carvell Williams was present. The gathering took place at the Swan Assembly Rooms, and exceeded in number the anticipations in which the Society's friends had ventured to indulge. Rev. J. Stent, and Messrs. Dawson, Lye, Jolly, and others, took part in the proceedings which were of the most gratifying character, and embraced the formation of a committee, the commencement of a subscription list, and the appointment of lady collectors.

LEWES.—The friends of the Liberation Society met together at the Committee-room of the Mechanics' Institution in this town, on Wednesday, the 24th inst., to receive a statement from Mr. Carvell Williams, the secretary. Tea was provided at 6 o'clock, after which Mr. R. W. Lower took the chair, and expressed his conviction of the great importance of the object for which they were then met. Mr. Williams then addressed the meeting for upwards of an hour and a-half, and evidently made a great impression upon those present, several of whom had previously taken little or no interest in the Society. A resolution, expressing the satisfaction of the meeting, with the statements that had been made of the recent operations and plans of the Society, was moved by Mr. N. Hammond, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Davey; and another, appointing a Local Committee, was moved by Mr. G. Adams, and seconded by the Rev. J. Haycroft. Both were carried unanimously. At the close of the meeting a subscription list was commenced, and since then several friends have had their names added to the list placed on the committee, expressing their determination to assist in a thorough co-operation with the parent society, especially with regard to the Ecclesiastical measures shortly to be brought before the notice of Parliament.

COMING MEETINGS.—We learn that Mr. Pryce is engaging in making arrangements for a series of meetings in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and that deputations

will next month visit Heywood, Accrington, Blackburn, Wigan, Bolton, and Burnley. Some *soirées* in London are also projected.

THE DISSENTERS OF KETTERING having rejected a Church-rate, the Churchmen retaliated by refusing a gas-rate.

THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ARCHDEACON DENISON.—The Bishop of Bath and Wells has, of his own accord, refused to sign the letters of request against Archdeacon Denison. The only proceeding now open to the Ditcher party is to obtain a *mandamus* from the Court of Queen's Bench to compel the Bishop to sign; but it is thought that there would be very little chance of the *mandamus* being granted. Failing this, the sole remaining alternative would be for the Archbishop of Canterbury to carry out the matter in person,—a solution of the dispute even more improbable than the *mandamus*.

THE "SPECTATOR" ON CHURCH-RATES.—Upon the question of Church-rates, since it is a pet question with the pertinacious and active party that carried the admission of Dissenters to Oxford degrees, and since they talk confidentially of the conpact alliance between Mr. Bright and Lord Stanley on this matter, as likely to lead to future consequences of a wide range—we may expect the squeezable properties of the Government to be again brought to use, and we doubt not with success. The difficulties of the question lie in the determination of the Dissenters to submit to no registration, and to be consenting parties to no act which shall imply that the national church-fabrics belong only to what they are fond of styling the Episcoplian sect at present connected with the civil constitution of the country; a determination that would appear highly unreasonable if viewed by itself, and disconnected from the great struggle likely to come into more prominent political importance year by year, till either men's beliefs in religious matters approximate, or vast alterations be effected in the relations beteen the religious communities and the state.

Religious Intelligence.

SALTERS'-HALL CANNON-STREET.—Mr. J. C. Todd, late of Salisbury, who has supplied the pulpit of Salters'-hall Chapel, Cannon-street, for nine months, has accepted the pastoral office, and commenced his labours as pastor on the first Sabbath in January.

LEIGH.—The Rev. William Moore, formerly one of the ministers at Hope-street Independent Chapel, Wigan, and since pastor of a congregation at Great Harwood, near Blackburn, has been appointed minister at Bethesda Chapel, Leigh.

Mr. E. W. SHALDERS, late student of Spring-hill College, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, James-street, Blackburn, and enters on his labours on the first Sabbath in February.

LOFTHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.—The Rev. N. Woodcock, late of Crick, Northamptonshire, having received, and accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Chapel in this place, will enter on his stated labours the first sabbath in February.

FALCON-SQUARE CHAPEL, LONDON.—Mr. John Bartlett, of New College, St. John's-wood, has accepted a cordial invitation from the Church assembling in Falcon-square Chapel to become co-pastor with their venerable pastor, Dr. Bennett, and commences his ministry there on the first Sunday evening in February.

THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN.—On Thursday last, the 25th inst., the Bishop of Lincoln delivered his fifth of a series of lectures to the working classes of Nottingham on the Evidences of Christianity. The great church of St. Mary was again crowded, and the most serious attention was paid by the congregation (principally working men) during the whole of the service.

POOLE, DORSET.—A religious meeting, of an unusual and interesting character, was held here on Wednesday evening. Christians of various denominations met in the Guildhall, to unite in prayer on behalf of their country, their Sovereign, and the Army and Navy. Prayer was offered by the Rev. G. Morgan, (Church of England); T. Sheers, (Wesleyan); J. R. Goulty and E. R. Conder, (Independents). The venerable incumbent of the parish, the Rev. P. W. Jolliffe, expressed his interest in the meeting, but his great age and infirm health prevented his attending. The Baptist pastor, the Rev. J. H. Osborne, was also absent through illness. Hymns were printed for the occasion, selected from various hymn-books. The Scriptures were read, but no addresses delivered. The hall was crowded, many being unable to gain admittance.

HALIFAX.—LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.—On Sunday afternoon, January 28th, the Rev. W. Walters delivered the last of his Second Course of Lectures to the Working Classes of Halifax. The immense hall in which these services have been held was filled an hour before the appointed time; and hundreds of persons could not obtain an entrance. The uproar was so great through the pressure for admission that it was some time before Mr. Walters could commence his discourse. Quiet having been secured by closing the doors, the lecturer proceeded with the discussion of the subject—"The Elements and Perpetuity of Heaven and Hell." The lecture, which lasted upwards of an hour and a-half, was listened to throughout in spite of the close atmosphere of the densely packed audience, with the most devout attention. At the close, Mr. Walters expressed the pleasure he had experienced in the discharge of these services, and stated that several instances of good resulting from them had come to his knowledge. He intimated that at some future time he should recommence some other services of a similar character. It is a pleasing feature that parties of all Evangelical denominations have manifested their deep interest in the movement; and although Mr. Walters engaged the Hall and undertook all the pecuniary responsibility connected with it, gentlemen of various creeds have come forward and liberally defrayed all the cost.

SHIRELAND-HALL SCHOOL, BIRMINGHAM.—This school, it will be remembered by many of our readers, has been established for the education of Ministers' sons of all persuasions included within the range of Evangelical Protestantism. The institution is under the care of the Rev. T. H. Morgan, and contains rather more than thirty youths, whose fathers comprise ministers of no fewer than seven different denominations. A moiety of the expense is borne by the parents of the pupils; the other moiety being provided for by voluntary subscriptions. From the Christmas Examination Papers and the Examiners' Reports, it would appear that the school is in a state of high efficiency. The examination appears to have embraced divinity, classics, mathematics, French and English grammar, etymology, ancient and modern history, geography, natural philosophy, and general knowledge. On each of these subjects, copious series of questions were proposed, of a searching character, and which no boys could have answered correctly who had not been taught thoroughly well. The testimony of the examiners is most satisfactory. The Rev. C. Vince, who examined in biblical history and elementary theology, vouches for the training and for the general progress of the pupils; remarking, that no question was unanswered, while to many more than are printed correct answers were given. The Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Walsall, the classical examiner, applauds the readiness and accuracy of the answering, and affirms the Senior Class to have greatly distinguished itself, answering in Horace, Livy, and Roman antiquities, with almost unvarying correctness. The mathematical and general examination was conducted by the Rev. S. G. Green, M.A., of Horton College, who declares that, while even the most unfinished attempts yielded evidence of the thoroughness with which the teaching is carried on, nothing could surpass the accuracy and neatness of several papers; and that, while in Algebra and Euclid, several pupils displayed remarkable ability, some of the papers on Euclid and on Trigonometry would have done credit to any College or University in the Kingdom. The answers in history proved, that a wide range of study in this important branch of knowledge had been judiciously and successfully pursued. "I was astonished" (says Mr. Green) "by the knowledge displayed by some of the younger lads in English History, not only in its broad outlines, but in its minuter details." "On the whole," (adds Mr. Green,) "the result of the Examination has raised my opinion (which was high before) of the excellence of the course of instruction pursued."

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Metropolitan Stage Carriages, for repeal of mileage duty, 22.
Newspaper Stamp, for repeal of, 22.
Public Libraries Bill, in favour of, 1.
Bishopric of Northumberland, in favour of, 1.
Criminal Law, for amendment of, 1.
Poor Law, for amendment of, 1.
Educational Grants, for withdrawal from denominational schools of, 1.
Intoxicating Liquors, for prohibiting the sale of, 1.
Paper Duty, for repeal of, 2.
Polish Independence, in favour of, 1.
Roman Catholic Chaplains (Army), in favour of, 1.
Wages, for payment without stoppages, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Nuisances, Removal and Diseases Prevention Act Consolidation and Amendment Bill.
Friendly Societies Bill.
Public Health Bill.

DEBATES.

THE VOTE OF THANKS TO THE TROOPS IN THE CRIMEA.

The SPEAKER, on Wednesday, read to the House a letter received from Lord Raglan in acknowledgement of the vote of thanks passed by the House at their sitting last month, and enclosing a letter from General Canrobert, acknowledging the vote of thanks to the French Army. It was as follows:—

Before Sebastopol, Jan, 7, 1855.

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 18th December, transmitting the resolutions of the House of Commons, and requesting me to communicate them to the officers and men of the British army and General Canrobert; and I beg to acquaint you that I have fulfilled your instructions, and am proud of having been charged with so agreeable a commission. The officers and men of the British army derived the highest gratification from the knowledge that their gallant exertions in the cause in which they are engaged have been honoured by the approval of the representatives of the British nation, and they accept with feelings of deepest gratitude the unanimous thanks of the House of Commons. I shall best make known to the House the sentiments entertained by General Canrebert of the public recognition of the brilliant achievements of the French army, in cordial co-operation with the troops of her Majesty, by transmitting to you a copy of his Excellency's letter, in reply to my communication, and the general order in which he announced to the army, under his command the resolutions of the House, and expressed his due appreciation of the thanks they conveyed. I trust you will be so good as to acquaint the House that I am deeply sensible of the great distinction it has conferred upon me in noticing my services, and that you will yourself accept my warmest acknowledgments for the manner in which you have performed the duty of communicating to me its resolutions. I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, your most obedient servant,

RAGLAN.

On the motion of Mr. Walpole, it was ordered that the letter of Lord Raglan should be printed with the proceedings of the House.

In the Lords, on Thursday, the same letters were read, and ordered to be entered in the journals of the House.

RESIGNATION OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

At the assembling of the House of Commons on Thursday, there was a larger attendance of members than usual. All the members of the Government, except Lord John Russell, were present. The announcement by Mr. Roebuck that he would postpone his motion of a Select Committee of Inquiry into the War till the following evening was the first indication of something unusual having happened. Shortly afterwards Mr. HAYTER rose and said, he had been requested by Lord John Russell to state that he had considered it consistent with his public duty to tender the resignation of his office; that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept it; and that Lord John would take an early opportunity of stating to the House the grounds on which he had come to that conclusion.

Lord PALMERSTON, hoping that members who had motions to propose would postpone them until the next night, when they would stand in the same position as they otherwise would do, moved the adjournment of the House. Mr. DRUMMOND objected to postponement, unless Mr. Roebuck's motion should have precedence. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON at once agreed to postpone his motion on Education, which stood first, until Tuesday.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Drummond, said that Mr. Roebuck had already postponed his motion, which would therefore have precedence. It was the wish and intention of the Government to oppose no obstacle to its coming on first. Mr. ROEBUCK suggested that his motion should have precedence of orders of the day. Lord PALMERSTON assented; and the House adjourned.

The first matter that occupied the attention of the Lords on the same day was a notice from Lord LYNDHURST that he would, on Friday, February 2, move the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this House the expedition to the Crimea was undertaken by her Majesty's Government with inadequate means, and without due caution or sufficient inquiry into the nature and extent of the resistance to be expected from the enemy, and that the neglect and mismanagement of the Government in the conduct of the war has led to the most disastrous results.

[This motion was subsequently postponed till Monday next.]

Shortly afterwards, the Duke of NEWCASTLE stated what had just taken place in the House of Commons; and that Lord Aberdeen had gone to Windsor to wait upon Her Majesty. It would be in accordance with precedent if their lordships would consent to adjourn until the next day; if Lord Winchilsea and Lord Grey would postpone their motions, he would venture to move the adjournment of the House.

The Earl of WINCHILSEA seemed to hesitate. The Earl of DERBY interposed, and suggested that it would meet with the concurrence of the House if he would have the goodness to postpone his motion. Thus appealed to, Lord WINCHILSEA consented.

Earl GREY remarked that he had already postponed his motion.

Earl FITZWILLIAM regretted that a step of such serious character should have been taken without affording the House any information respecting the reasons which had prompted it.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied:—It is not the duty of any other person to state for my noble friend the reasons for his resignation. It is for my noble friend who has resigned to state the reasons for that resignation, and I have reason to believe that it is his intention to state them to-morrow. And I ask, how can it be maintained that it is competent for us to make that explanation for him which he alone is competent to make?

The motion of adjournment was agreed to.

On Friday night there was a very full attendance of members of the House of Commons. Mr. Drummond and Mr. Roebuck were in their places very shortly after four o'clock, on the front bench, below the gangway, on the Ministerial side. Lord J. Russell entered the house at twenty minutes after four o'clock, and took his seat on the fourth bench, behind Ministers, amidst some faint cheers from the Opposition. Lord Palmerston, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, and the other principal Ministers did not take their places until half-past four o'clock. The orders of the day were postponed, on the motion of Lord Palmerston, after which,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL made his promised explanation of the reasons for his resignation of office—a statement which he had postponed, he said, until that day, at the request of Lord Aberdeen. Referring to the notice given by Mr. Roebuck of a motion for a committee to inquire into the condition of our army in the East, and into the conduct of the war departments, he observed that the power of inquiry was a most valuable privilege of the House, and that such a motion might be resisted upon two grounds—first, that no evils existed of sufficient magnitude to call for inquiry; secondly, that if such evils did exist, they would be best cured by other means. With regard to the first, no one, he thought, could deny the melancholy condition of our army at Sebastopol, or oppose any measure likely to cure or mitigate the evil. Not being able to deny the existence of the evil, he could not, on that ground, induce the House to resist the motion.

No one can deny the melancholy condition of our army before Sebastopol. (Cries of "Hear, hear.") The accounts which arrive from that quarter are not only painful, but they are horrible and heartrending; and I am sure no one would oppose for a moment any measure which he thought likely, if not entirely to cure, even only to mitigate those evils. And, Sir, I must say that there is something that, with all the official knowledge to which I had access, is to me inexplicable in the state of that army. (Cries of "Hear, hear.") If you had been told, as a reason against the expedition to the Crimea last year, that your troops would be seven miles from the sea—seven miles from a secure port, which, at that time, in contemplation of the expedition, we hardly hoped to possess, and that at seven miles' distance they should be in want of food, of clothes, and of shelter, to such a degree that they should perish at the rate of from 90 to 100 a day, I should have considered such a prediction as utterly preposterous, such an objection as fanciful and unjust. But now we are forced to confess the notoriety of that state of circumstances.

He could not give a faint "No" to the proposal for inquiry. But he would have been disposed to give the second reason; because a committee sitting upstairs would be fatal to the efficiency of the military departments. But he could not conscientiously make that objection. He had concurred in the appointment of the Duke of Newcastle to the War Department: he had kept up through the autumn a constant correspondence on the war; but in November, after attending the Cabinet Council, it struck him that a better administration of the affairs relating to the war was required. He then entered into a correspondence with Lord Aberdeen, in which he proposed that the War Department should be rearranged, and that the office of Secretary of State and Secretary at War should be held by the same person.

From the other point of view, (he continued, in a letter dated November 17,) the prospect is equally clear. We are in the midst of a great war; and in order to carry on that war with efficiency, either the Prime Minister must be continually urging, hastening, completing the military preparations, or the Minister of War must be strong enough to control other departments. There are, of course, the objections of other ministries, the plea of other interests to be attended to; but these pleas, and a thousand others that may be advanced in justification of the separate heads of departments, must be forced to yield to the paramount necessity of carrying on the war so as to secure the efficiency of each service and the completeness of the means to the end in view. If, therefore, the first considerations I have presented lead to the conclusion that the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the War Department must be in the House of Commons, the latter considerations point to the necessity of having in that office a man who, from experience of military duties, and from inherent vigour of mind, may be expected to guide the great operations of war with authority and success. There is only one person belonging to the Government who combines in himself those advantages; and my conclusion is, that, before Parliament meets, Lord Palmerston should be the person.

(Great cheering from the Opposition.)—Lord John did not throw blame on the Duke of Newcastle, who deserves great credit for what he has done, and who has not been able to do all that might have been done for want of the necessary powers of control. Lord Aberdeen said that what Lord John proposed amounted to a mere charge of persons,—although Lord John did not desire that the transaction should receive that interpretation. Lord Aberdeen also objected, that no man could undertake the proposed duties, and that hereafter it might be desirable that some military chief, sitting in the House of Lords, should hold the office. Lord John replied, on the 28th November, that the Cabinet is a cumbrous machine for carrying on a war, and that what was wanted was a Minister of War of vigour and ability. In answer to this he received a letter from Lord Aberdeen, dated November 30, in which he says—

After all, I think your letter certainly reduces the question to the simple issue of the first alternative - the substitution of one man for another. In answer to my suggestion that some consideration was due to the Duke on the part of his colleagues, you say you understand that the Administration was founded on the principle of doing what was best for the public service, without regard to the self-love or even the acquired position of individuals. Undoubtedly that was the case, and I feel assured that you will agree with me in thinking that the Duke of Newcastle would be the last man to wish that he should be made any exception to the rule. But I must observe, that at the formation of the Government no such office as the War Department was contemplated; and when, subsequently, the Colonial and War Departments were divided, no objection was made to the choice of the War Department by the Duke of Newcastle, nor, so far as I am aware, to his administration of that department. Now, though objections made on a first appointment may be allowed to carry full weight, it is a very different thing to depose a man who has conducted the business of his department with ability and efficiency. Undoubtedly, the public service must be our first object; but I can see no sufficient reason for such a change, which, indeed, is forbidden by a sense of justice and good faith. On the whole, then, believing that such a change would be of doubtful advantage to the public, as well as an act of injustice and unfairness to a colleague, and thinking that all such changes which are not absolutely necessary only tend to weaken a Government, I must repeat that I cannot honestly assent to the proposal.

Lord John rejoined, that as Lord Aberdeen could not assent to the substitution, and as he himself did not wish to change the Government, he would press the matter no further. Lord Palmerston and others of his colleagues advised him not to press the change: yet now he was told that he had acted with too much haste. That being the case with regard to men, what could he say as to measures? He had given a pledge that the military department should be newly arranged; but the only change he could announce was, that the Commissariat had been placed under the War Minister. No further change was mentioned until, on Saturday last, an inefficient proposal was made in the Cabinet. He had therefore to consider, on Tuesday last, what he should do on Thursday—to ask himself whether he could fairly and honestly say, The evils are great, the sufferings such as make the heart of England throb with sympathy; but the War Department has been consolidated, placed in a hand of vigour and efficiency; wants will be immediately supplied, abuses instantly remedied. He could not say that, especially after what he had written to Lord Aberdeen. He should betray confidence if he had given an assurance not justified by the fact.

Well, sir. it appeared to me that the members of the Government could hardly remain with such a committee as the honourable and learned gentleman has proposed; that it would not be, I will not say dignified, but that it would not be consistent with the practical good working of our institutions, that there should be a Ministry sitting on these benches and governing the war, and that their military administration should be constantly overlooked and checked by a committee sitting up-stairs; that the Minister of War should have not only to consider what he was to do in order to provide for the urgent necessities of the hour, and also to provide necessaries for the requisitions that come from day to day, but that he should also have to consider the evidence that he must furnish of his conduct five or six months ago. I therefore felt that, as I could not resist the inquiry, by giving the only answer which I thought sufficient to prevent or stop its taking place, it was my duty not to remain any longer a member of the Government, I therefore, on the 23rd, wrote the following note to the Earl of Aberdeen:—

Chesham-place, 23rd January, 1855.

My Dear Lord Aberdeen—Mr. Roebuck has given notice of a motion for a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the war. I do not see how this motion is to be resisted. But, as it involves a censure upon the War Department conducted by my colleagues, my only course is to tender my resignation. I have, therefore, to request that you lay my humble resignation of the office which I have the honour to hold before the Queen, with the expression of my gratitude for her Majesty's kindness for many years past.

I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

To this letter he received no answer; but on the following evening, Lord Aberdeen informed him that her Majesty had accepted his resignation. Those Ministers who could resist inquiry would be perfectly right in doing so: at the same time he must say he had heard a rumour that the seals of the War Department were to be placed in the hands of Lord Palmerston; and that he should be glad to think that his retirement had contributed to that change, as he thought it must have done. Having stated thus much with regard to his own position, he proposed, as he should take no part in the debate, to go somewhat further with respect to the present state of public affairs.

I shall say in the first place, that I believe that all parties in this House without distinction are anxious that the war should be carried on, as the meeting at Leeds expressed it, by the most vigorous measures, until we obtain a just and honourable peace. I think that those measures which are the most vigorous for the prosecution of the war, those terms of peace which are most decidedly and unequivocally just and honourable, will meet with the most favour from all parties in this House; and I thoroughly believe that if any success attend her Majesty's arms, those who have been in opposition to Lord Aberdeen's Government will as heartily rejoice in that success as those who have supported it. This certainly gives the Government great facilities for carrying on the war with success. Nor do I think that the aspect of affairs generally is such as to warrant the depression which appears to prevail in some quarters. No doubt, the accounts we have received from the camp at Sebastopol are gloomy and disheartening; but with regard to the great object of the war in which we are engaged, I believe that our prospects are by no means gloomy. As I have been accused of having on a former occasion depreciated the manner and intentions of Austria, I now wish to give every credit and importance to what that power has done. It is in consequence of the large armaments that she has kept up, equipping her army to the extent of 500,000 men, intrenching and strengthening the points that are weak, and horsing a numerous force of cavalry, that the Emperor of Russia has for the first time abated much of his pretensions, that he has been induced to listen to propositions which he at once rejected last August, and that he was now willing to consider whether he will not make such concessions as will conduce to peace. We have, therefore, in a great degree owing to the admirable ability, but still more to the admirable patience, exhibited by Lord Clarendon in the negotiations with Austria, obtained the advantage of that power not only throwing her weight into the negotiations, but declaring if peace cannot be obtained on such terms as she shall think safe for Europe, she will act in the field with the allies, and bring her 500,000 men in aid of the armies now employed. We have, in the next place, to rely without the smallest doubt on the fidelity of our ally the Emperor of the French: nor can I have the smallest hesitation in assuring the House of the confidence I feel that the two countries of England and France will continue united to the end of this great struggle. Well, Sir, with these advantages on our side, I think we may hope either that the Emperor of Russia will make those concessions, which will be just and honourable for England and France, and safe for Europe, or, if he should fail in making those concessions, that there will be such a force of European armies collected against him that finally triumph must attend our armies. (Cheers.) I feel assured that whoever is Minister may rely, first, on the patriotic zeal and loyalty of this House; next, on the unflinching alliance of the Emperor of the French; and next, on the unflinching alliance of the Emperor of Austria, if honourable terms of peace cannot be obtained. (Cheers.) As I have left Lord Aberdeen's Government, I cannot help quoting Sir Robert Peel's words with respect to that noble Lord, and stating that, in my opinion, they are fully justified. When Sir Robert Peel was leaving office, he said:—

My noble friend has dared to avow that there is a moral obligation upon the Christian Minister of a Christian country to exhaust every effort for the maintenance of peace, before incurring the risk, not to say the guilt, of war. But while he has not shrunk from the manly avowal of that opinion, I will in justice to him add this—and it is perfectly consistent with that opinion, as to the moral obligation of maintaining peace while peace can be maintained with honour—that there never was a Minister less inclined to sacrifice any essential interest, or to abate anything from the dignity and honour of this country, even for the purpose of securing that inestimable blessing.

I believe this opinion, which was uttered by Sir Robert Peel, to be perfectly just. It was only a few days since that I had a long conversation with him on the terms on which peace might be satisfactorily concluded; and I must say that I entirely concurred in all he said, and that I have the fullest reliance that he will not consent to any peace that is not just and honourable, and would not consent to any peace that would not be approved by the general opinion and feelings of this country.

Lord John said he should look back with pride to his association with many measures of the Administration; notably Mr. Gladstone's financial scheme in 1853. It had been said that the Whig party has not had its fair share in the distribution of power in this Administration. Previously to that time an unjust belief prevailed that the Whigs were an exclusive party, wanting all office for themselves. I believe that opinion to have been unjust, and I think that the Whig party during the last two years has fully justified the opinion I entertained. I will venture to say, that no set of men ever behaved with greater honour, or with more disinterested patriotism, than those—I might indeed say the whole—who have supported the Government of the Earl of Aberdeen. It is my pride, and it will ever be my constant endeavour to preserve the principles and tread in the paths which the Whig party have laid down for the guidance of their conduct. (Cheers.)

Lord PALMERSTON assured Lord John Russell and the House, that, officially and personally, nothing could be more painful to him than the step his noble friend had taken. There had been temporary differences, that might have clouded their intercourse for a time; but they had passed away from the minds of both; and whether with him or divided from him in politics, his esteem and friendship can never be affected by anything past, present, or future. Lord Palmerston admitted the right of a public man to quit office when he cannot reconcile continuance in office with his sense of duty. It was not for him to say whether Lord John was right or wrong in the course he took with regard to the Duke of Newcastle. He could corroborate his noble friend in his statement that his colleagues entreated him not to quit the Government when Lord Aberdeen declined to acquiesce in his views.

I am assured my noble friend will feel that, on this occasion, I am not speaking as a party concerned, but simply as a member of the Government from which a colleague has departed. (Hear, hear, from Lord John Russell.) But from the time that correspondence was concluded, on the 3rd of December or about that date, when, at the unanimous request of his colleagues, he consented to remain in office, my belief is, that up to the moment of his resignation he did not renew that proposal. With his views, Lord John must have felt the difficulty of resisting Mr. Roebuck's motion; but he must also have felt, that independently of any change in the War Department, there are grave constitutional objections to the motion. Though my noble friend might properly and naturally have continued to entertain an opinion that a change was necessary with regard to the person who held the office of Secretary of State for War, yet I must venture humbly to submit to him that that opinion ought to have been repeated to the noble lord at the head of the Government before the reassembling of Parliament after the late recess. He ought to have given the Government the opportunity of stating to him whether or not that proposal would be accepted on his renewal of it. If, before Parliament met, my noble friend had said to the head of the Government, "I, in common with all mankind, expect that when Parliament meets some motion will be made, either inculpating the Government or requiring an explanation from them with regard to the conduct of the war"—for, indeed, the conversation at every street-corner, the leading articles in every newspaper, must have satisfied every one that such an event was to be looked for—if the noble lord had said, "Such a motion appears to me, if not inevitable, at least highly probable; and I tell you beforehand, that if it comes on, I cannot resist it, unless such and such changes are made in the department which conducts the war," then the Government would have had the opportunity either of reconsidering the objections which had been made to the noble lord's proposal or of acquiescing in it at once. If the same objections which had been made to it on a former occasion had prevailed, they would then have had the opportunity of determining whether they would continue to sustain the loss of the noble lord's services, or whether they would deem that loss to be of such pre-eminent importance as to impose on them the necessity of surrendering their offices into the hands of her Majesty, with a view to the formation of some other Government. A resignation at that time, and under those circumstances, might have happened without any disparagement to the parties concerned. Ample time would have been given for arrangements of any kind, either for the remodelling of the existing Government or for the formation of a new one. Such a proceeding would have been in the ordinary practice of politics. But the course taken by my noble friend, I must venture humbly to submit to him, was not in correspondence with the usual practice of public men. It was one calculated inevitably to place the Government to which he belonged in a position of embarrassment, in which, at the hands of a colleague at least, they ought not to have been placed. But my noble friend,—not having while he was in the Cabinet made any distinct proposal, of which I am aware, for the better prosecution of the war, which had been rejected, and on the rejection of which he was entitled to say that he could not continue to be responsible for measures of which he disapproved,—on Tuesday evening last, after having appeared in this House, and having given notice of motions which he had to make in his capacity of President of the Council, writes to the noble lord at the head of the Government, tenders his resignation, upon the simple ground that he is unable to resist the motion of the honourable and learned Member for Sheffield. . . . . If, as I said before, his resignation was founded upon the objection of the First Lord of the Treasury to adopt the change proposed by my noble friend in the War Department, I think my noble friend would have acted better if he had repeated that ground in the letter in which he signified his resignation, and have thus given the noble lord at the head of the Government an opportunity of considering the occasion of my noble friends resignation; and if he still continued of opinion that a change was indispensable, his resignation would have stood on grounds to which no one could make any objection. But, I think, under the circumstances which existed, his colleagues were not only entitled to feel regret on losing the services of so eminent a member of the Government and so influential a member of this House, but also that they were entitled to say it was a loss which was wholly unexpected by them, and that they were not justified in expecting it. In speaking of the hasty manner in which he tendered his resignation, the precipitate manner in which he announced it, and the grounds on which it took place, I must say I think it was unusual, and that the Government have a right to say they were not justified in expecting it. Having said so much, I will abstain from any further remark upon this subject; and I assure my noble friend, that in making these remarks upon the course which he has pursued, I have made them from a strong sense of my duty, and not from any unfriendly feeling to him. (Hear, hear, from Lord John Russell.) In the close of his address, he has said, that whoever may be charged with the functions of the War Department

will feel it to be his duty to conduct the war with that vigour which is necessary to bring it to a successful result. I concur with my noble friend in that opinion. The Government have felt it their duty, notwithstanding the great loss which they have sustained by the secession of my noble friend, not to run away from the motion of the honourable member for Sheffield—that it would be disgraceful not to meet it, standing in the position which we now occupy, minus my noble friend (a laugh), and they have resolved to meet that motion. If that motion be carried, of course it is unnecessary to say what will be the result. If, in the course of the debate, reasons be given of sufficient weight to induce the House to reject it, it will be for the Government to consider in that case what will be necessary in the recomposition of the Government. (Laughter.) We meet the motion as we stand; the future depends upon the results. But whoever has the conduct of the war, it will be his duty to conduct it in the manner described by my noble friend; and he will find it necessary to prosecute it in accordance with the public feeling, and with all the vigour and efficiency necessary to conduct it to a successful issue.

THE ARMY BEFOR SEBASTOPOL.

Mr. ROEBUCK then rose to move for a select committee to inquire into the condition of our army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of those departments of the Government whose duty it has been to minister to the wants of that army. The melancholy condition of our army, he observed, had been acknowledged by Lord J. Russell, who had confessed that he was unable, as a Minister of the Crown, to resist this motion; yet, in the same breath, he had declared that he should not support the motion by speech or vote. The question divided itself into two parts—first, what was the condition of the army before Sebastopol; the second, how that condition had been brought about. With respect to the condition of the army there could not be two opinions; all he had to do was to submit to the House that inquiry was necessary to ascertain what were the causes by which that condition had been brought about.

It appears, from the best information, that there are now not more than 14,000 men actually in arms before Sebastopol, and of these 14,000 less than 5,000 are in a state of health. I have now in my hand a letter dated January 8, from Constantinople, the writer of which states that, according to the best information, the effective force of the British before Sebastopol did not exceed 14,000 men; that the artillery and engineers have diminished in a similar ratio; and that the cavalry had ceased to exist as a force, the horses having been taken up for the transport of provisions. The writer also says he is sure that the British army will within two months be totally destroyed; and, speaking of a general who has been out there and has now returned, he states that, in accordance with his opinion and the opinions of those most likely to be well informed, he is firmly persuaded that a great disaster is about to befall the army now before Sebastopol. 14,000 men, then, remain out of the whole 54,000. I want to know, Sir, what has become of the 40,000 troops who have disappeared from the ranks of your army? (Hear, hear.) This is a simple matter of figures, and if your force has been reduced from 54,000 to 14,000 men, I repeat—and I am obliged to ask the question—what has become of these 40,000 troops? [Here a brief pause intervened from the evident physical weakness of the speaker. He then resumed.] I feel, Sir, that my strength is very inadequate to this task, and I therefore hope that the House will bear with me. (Cheers, followed by a recommendation to the hon. and learned gentleman to be seated.) No, no; I will endeavour to proceed. The condition of the army being such as I have stated, my next inquiry is—How was that condition brought about? My belief is, that it has been produced by incapacity at home and incapacity abroad—by incapacity on the part of those whose duty it is to minister to that army's wants. At the present moment I am given to understand that the harbour of Balaklava is encumbered with stores—that the country which possesses means of transport beyond those of all the world, has been enabled through the enthusiasm of the people to lay on the shores of that harbour stores sufficient to maintain an army twice as large as that which now exists; but that, having transported these stores 3,000 miles across the ocean, another seven miles intervene, and that, therefore, your forces are deprived of everything it requires for their maintenance as an army. How has this been occasioned? Why, first, by the insufficiency of the provision made here when the army was sent to the Crimea; and, next, by the inefficiency of those to whom it was confided when it reached that country. Hear, hear.) [At this point of his address the hon. and learned gentleman was again unable to proceed, and at length he observed]—I really, Sir, feel my strength so feeble that I cannot continue these remarks (cheers), and, in my present state, I shall at once move the resolution which is now in your hands (renewed cheers), viz., for a committee of inquiry into the condition of our army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of those departments of Government whose duty it was to minister to its wants. (Hear, hear.)

The motion having been duly seconded and the question put, an interval of several moments elapsed without another speaker presenting himself to continue the discussion. After repeated cries of "Divide!" and "Read! Read!"

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT interposed. He said he rose with hesitation, after witnessing what must have pained every one. What had occurred had also placed him in a difficult position, for no specific charge had been made, no case substantiated. He did believe that the army had been reduced to a state which excites the anxiety of the country. How had that come about? The disorganization of the army arose from the long peace. The English army was a collection of regiments, in every one of which there existed a perfect regimental system; but the field officers in command of the regiments had never seen a brigade, and were unacquainted with the organization of large bodies. The men, too, in this highly-civilized country, never learnt to do anything for themselves. We had never entered upon any great war, he remarked, which did not begin with great reverses; but in the present instance there had been also great military successes. After detailing the measures adopted by the Government to provide adequate supplies of stores for the army, he contended that it was unjust, without information, to lay blame upon absent men.

We have written to the Commander-in-Chief, pointing out the failures which appear to have taken place, drawing his attention to circumstances which have been reported to us, and desiring him to use the supreme powers intrusted to him to displace those men who have shown themselves to be incompetent, and to replace them by those acting under his own eye, who have qualified themselves in the stern school of experience, and who have given proofs of their administrative ability. It is not in the power of the Government, at this distance and without information, and it would be cowardly and discreditable without certainty, to attempt to throw the blame on men who are absent—who may be accused unjustly, and who, at any rate, are now gallantly perilling their lives in the service of their country. (Hear, hear.)

Government had no wish to conceal any portion of there conduct in this matter, and every information required should be laid upon the table of the House. Their difficulties had been well described by one of his correspondents, who after describing the condition of affairs in the Crimea, says:—"Your Government has sent out plenty of everything; they have sent it 3,000 miles, but the distance is 3,006; and the last six miles are more difficult than the first 3,000." So far as it depends upon the Government he might quote the very observation which fell from his hon. and learned friend when he said, "You have transported to the shores of Balaklava stores enough to feed and shelter twice the body of men that you have sent out." (Hear, hear.)

I should like to state to the House, because it is, perhaps, scarcely aware of it, what amount of transport has been necessary to convey, not only our men, not only our horses, not only our ammunition, but the food, the provender, and military stores requisite for the maintenance of an army such as ours. And when it is said that these departments of the Government have been slack and remiss in their mode of executing their duty, I think I owe it to the Admiralty to read this paper to show what an immense power has been put into exercise in order to convey this army and its stores. I find that from the 7th of February, 1854, to the 10th of December, 1854, and from the 11th of December, 1854, to the 22nd of January, 1855, that the Admiralty in their own ships or hired transports have conveyed to the East—British troops from England, officers, 2,141; men, 54,224; horses, 5,408; provisions from England, 29,261 tons, navy service; 18,897 tons, army service; 19,105 Ordnance stores; 110,867 tons of coals; 3,320 naval stores, and from Malta, 7,180 tons. French troops from Marseilles and Toulon—officers, 556; men, 14,055; horses, 193; stores, 8,037. From Calais to the Baltic—French troops—officers, 437; men, 12,888; horses, 21; British stores, navy provisions, 9,346 tons; Ordnance stores, 266 tons; naval stores, 247 tons; coals, 47,907 tons; making a grand total of 3,134 officers, 81,167 men, 5,622 horses, and 254,433 tons of provisions and stores.

He insisted that great delusions upon this subject prevailed in the country. He detailed the steps taken to remedy defective arrangements by the Government, which had acted, he said, upon every practicable suggestion.

The Duke of Newcastle has organized a corps, and I see from accounts in the newspapers that fresh supplies of baggage animals are arriving at Balaklava, and I have every reason to hope that when this establishment is put on a thorough good footing by an experienced officer who discharged the same duty for Sir Charles Napier we shall find that it will not be possible for our army to fall into the same state in which it has been. I believe the commissariat in the Crimea has been overburdened with work, and that their duties ought to be confined to the providing of provisions, and not, as hitherto, to its transport likewise. The Duke of Newcastle has also established a staff corps for the purpose of providing a police for the army. This was sent out some time ago, and is working satisfactorily. He is engaged in forming a hospital staff, which will, I believe, be the means of redressing one of the most crying grievances of the army, by supplying the want of a permanent staff attached to the hospitals, instead of trusting to those men passing through the hospitals.

He endeavoured to show, upon various grounds, the inexpediency of the motion, which was calculated, in his opinion, to paralyze the action of the Government at home and of the authorities abroad.

What will be the effect of all this on the departments themselves? The member of the Government at the head of each department must attend the committee in order to conduct his own defence; and I want to know what time will then be left the members of the Government to administer the affairs of the army, and carry on the measures necessary for the prosecution of the war, if their life is to be spent day after day in a committee-room of the House of Commons, answering questions, producing returns, and endeavouring to defend themselves from attacks made in the House. The Government will be simply paralyzed during the time this inquiry lasts. And what will be the effect upon the army into whose condition you are to inquire? How do you intend to prosecute that inquiry? Will you send commissioners to the Crimea, to interfere with everything going on in the camp; or do you intend to bring officers home from Sebastopol to give you the information you want? You are taking upon yourselves the duties of the Commander-in-Chief. If the Commander-in-Chief is incapable to perform his duties, it is the duty of the Government to recall him. It would be a crime for the Government not to recall the Commander-in-Chief they deemed incapable; but it would be no less a crime to jump at a conclusion of his incapacity without proof, and to sacrifice men here to public clamour for the unworthy purpose of placing on their shoulders the blame the House of Commons wishes to throw upon their own. He pressed for a decision at once. Government has long been without genuine Parliamentary support, and has suffered from a course of calumny recklessly and unscrupulously pursued. But, weak as it was, its position is now more precarious since the secession of Lord John Russell. Under these circumstances—as the state of things in the Crimea requires daily action—as delicate negotiations are impending—as it will be fatal to both to suspend the functions of the Government, he demanded a plain and rapid decision. "I say, Sir, it is time the House of Commons should decide for us. We are ready to abide by that issue." (Cheers.)

Mr. DRUMMOND said he imputed to the gross incompetency of some man or men that our army was left to perish, and he wanted to know who it was, and this could not be known without information. He should have thought the Government would be the first to thank Mr. Roebuck for this motion. Mr. DRUMMOND dwelt at considerable length upon various instances of mismanagement in the war administration. He read a letter from the camp, mentioning numerous cases of gross mismanagement. A general order was issued for the soldiers to have candles and potatoes, but none could be obtained.

The men, too, he added, were one year in arrears of clothing. It had been at Scutari for months, and it had been promised to be brought up, but it was there still, and the men were in rags. The writer of this letter says this sort of thing has been caused by the country's neglect. I say it has been caused solely by Ministerial incompetence. (Cheers.) So, again, the militia clothing has been delayed until the tailors have lost £10,000, because Lord Hardinge could not settle the cut of those ridiculous German postboys coats. (A laugh.) An order was sent to Gibraltar for the men there to practice with the Minié rifle. But from the day on which the order was given, until a few weeks ago, I understand there was not a Minié rifle to be got there. With regard to this Minié rifle, I believe that Mr. Westley Richards went to an enormous expense, and incurred a great deal of trouble, to perfect it. After a wearisome delay, one of the specimens was selected, and what did the Government do? They sent it to Liege to be manufactured, and there they also manufacture Minié rifles for the Emperor of Russia. Upon inquiry, I find that Mr. Filder is still at the head of the commissariat at Sebastopol, who was the man that Sir Thomas Picton wanted to hang. (Laughter.) When the wooden huts were first talked about, the Duke of Newcastle was asked how they were to be got up from Balaklava to the camp? "Oh," says he, "the men can draw them up." They are already overworked by other duty, and it has been calculated that it would take the labour of 2,500 men for three weeks to draw them to the camp. By the last accounts it was stated that some of them had arrived, and that they were being carried up by two planks at a time upon mules, the planks being burnt for firewood as they arrived, from the unlikelihood of the rest every following them. The want of shoes and other clothing has been disgraceful, and these details we can only get at by a committee of this House, which I therefore think ought to be granted. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Drummond was sorry to see Lord John Russel on the fourth bench behind the Ministry. "Long may he live and happy may he be." (A laugh.) He had been sacrificed in order to get for them this War Minister. He was sorry he had cost so much. He thought he might have been got at a cheaper rate. The Government must do a great deal in its turn. Let them give the Minister of War all the power he required—let them pass acts of Parliament if he wanted them—let him be, in fact, for the time, a species of military dictator. Mr. Drummond concluded by saying:—

If I am asked who is the true culprit, I should accuse, first, the total ignorance of what the army undertook in going to the Crimea and in besieging Sebastopol; and, secondly, the total incompetency of Lord Aberdeen to rule a commissariat composed of Treasury clerks. I hardly know the Duke of Newcastle when I see him, but I have known Lord Aberdeen long, and I must say that I am friendly to him for his amiable and peaceful, but not for his belligerent qualities. (Cheers.)

Colonel NORTH attributed the chief blame of the defects of our army organisation to the House, which refused to grant money for military purposes.

Mr. MILNES considered that the evils complained of were the result of a long system of public neglect, the correction of which required a strong and vigorous Administration. He opposed the motion. No one, he thought, could believe that a committee was a fair and proper tribunal for such an inquiry.

The Marquis of GRANBY expressed a similar intention, for the same reason; but professed considerable disapprobation of the conduct of Government, especially as regarded its diplomatic proceedings.

Mr. LINDSAY disavowed any intention to refer to the policy of the war. It was sufficient for him to know that we were at war, that our soldiers were dying at the rate of 100 a-day, and that our troops were unclothed, uncovered, and unfed. He, for one, would support the motion, quite independently of the question of confidence or no confidence in the present Administration. Taking them as individuals he had great confidence in them; but, as a body, he thought that they did not display that unanimity which was desirable under present circumstances. (Hear, hear.) He agreed that a committee upstairs was not the proper quarter to which so important a question as that involved in the motion should be referred; but, when they found the Government admitting that there was some gross mistake somewhere, and not taking measures to effect a radical reform, there was no other course left but to refer the matter to a committee of members of that House, and, deeming, as he did, that measures of reform were necessary, he should support the motion of his hon. and learned friend. He was very much pleased indeed to hear the statement of the Secretary-at-War, that out of the 54,000 men who had left these shores we had only lost 14 per cent.; but all accounts from the Crimea confirmed the statement of the hon. and learned member (Mr. Roebuck) that out of that army of 54,000 there only remained 14,000. He thought there had been also gross neglect in allowing a large portion of the 107,000 tons of stores (which the Secretary-at-War said had been sent out) to lie and rot at Balaklava, while the men in the camp were dying for want of them.

Mr. LAYARD, after criticising the defence of the Government offered by the Secretary-at-War, enumerated flagrant instances of mismanagement with reference to the army in the very teeth of warnings, describing the state of things he had witnessed at Balaklava, and the defective manner in which the departments were conducted. If the British soldier was helpless, the fault lay with the system, which reduced him to a machine. It was not so with the British sailor nor with the French soldier. The latter performed his duties better than the Englishman, not because he was a better or a braver man, but because he served under a better system. (Cheers.) If they wished to go to the root of the evil they must go to the Horse Guards (hear, hear), and not till then would the evil be radically corrected. The House, he said, must not be misled by reports of the abundance of provisions at Balaklava. There might be an abundance of clothing and vegetables, but, unless the vegetables were consumed and the clothing worn what was the use of sending them there. The following was one of his many illustrations of Government pedantry:—

Last year, before the expedition was sent out, the Government was fully warned, they were told that Bulgaria had been depopulated, and that the army while there must be provided with all the necessaries of life from elsewhere. He (Mr. Layard) had suggested Sinope as a depot which would have been available either for an expedition to Sebastopol or in Asia Minor. He had also told them how they might ensure the means of transport, but his advice was slighted and the Government refused to employ a single man who could speak the language of the country where our troops where serving. (Hear, hear.) One gentleman he recommended, who was conversant with all the different dialects spoken in Turkey, and who spoke English well, was told when he offered his services that such was the routine that he could not be placed in such a position as to entitle him to dine with the officers, and, of course, he refused the appointment. The consequence was that none but Sir C. Trevelyan's clerks, who could not speak a word of the native languages, had been employed, and who could therefore give no information, nor be of any real use. One person, who knew nothing whatever of Turkey or the Turkish people, or their language, had been deputed to make inquiries at Constantinople upon seventy or eighty different subjects about which many persons who had lived in Turkey all their lives were wholly unacquainted, and as might naturally be expected this gentleman's labours were futile. Such, however, had been the system throughout.

It now appeared that Lord Raglan had been directed to make a report to the Government upon the state of the army; but how were they to get at the truth in that report? Did they think that if they examined the officers they would tell them all they felt? Not a bit of it. And how would those reports be made? Were they likely to be fair reports? On the contrary, and very naturally too, would not all that reflected credit be given, and all that was unfavourable be kept in the background? (Hear, hear.) That was the nature of the reports they would get, and not the least dependence could be placed upon them. The House were told that, through the vicious system adopted by the Government, the medical officers before Sebastopol had resigned in a body. Of course Lord Raglan refused to receive their resignation, but the matter was a very serious one, and it showed how badly the Government departments must be managed when the medical officers, finding they were unable to discharge their duties properly, were compelled to resign in a body. (Hear, hear.) The statesmanship of the present Government seemed to bear out the statement of Thomas Carlyle, that it would be of little detriment to the public service to throw a piece of orange peel into the Palace court-yard, and make the first man who picked it up Prime Minister? (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He should vote upon this motion, he said, as a question of confidence or no confidence, and how could he vote confidence in a Government which had proved itself so utterly incapable not only of carrying on the war, but of managing diplomacy?

In such a critical position he did not think the affairs of the country ought to be administered by men who had shown themselves incompetent in war and incompetent in diplomacy, and he could not by his vote to-night show the slightest confidence in those who had betrayed what he considered to be the best interests of the country. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) For the first time, brave hearts which had never desponded were desponding at the state of things existing in the Crimea. He had received letters from two gentlemen he knew well, and from whom he had never heard a word to say they doubted or feared, stating that at last they must confess things were desperate. (Hear, hear.) This, then, was not the moment to hesitate, and it was only by the country compelling the House of Commons to take the matter in their own hands, and having men equal to the occasion to carry out the policy of the country, that they could hope for safety. (Cheers.) He believed there were men who could do this and who could save the country. They must have men to carry out a policy worthy of the country, and if that policy were not carried out, they might depend upon it that England ere long would be reduced to the position of a second-rate Power. (Hear, hear.) It was with these convictions—these solemn convictions—that he felt himself compelled to vote in favour of the motion of his hon. friend. (Cheers.)

Sir G. GREY strongly objected to the establishment of so mischievous a precedent as that of submitting the conduct of the war to the investigation of a select committee of that House. In effect, the motion now proposed was equivalent to a vote of censure on the Government; but the opposition would be liable to the charge of subterfuge if they denied it to be such, at the same time that they declined to challenge a direct decision of the House on the question of confidence. On the general charge of incapacity in conducting the war, he admitted and regretted many errors and evils, contending, nevertheless, that blame could not justly be attributed to the administrative departments either at home or abroad, since the results arose partly from providential visitations, and partly from the universal inexperience which a long peace had necessarily induced among the individuals to whom the management of the vast machine of war was intrusted. Sir George adverted to the explanation given by Lord J. Russell, and observed that he did not understand that, when his noble friend suggested that the offices of Secretary at War and Secretary of State for the War Department should be combined and placed in the hands of a member of that House, he considered it essential to the conduct of the war. He (Sir George) admitted that, knowing what the feelings of the country were, he could have wished that, when the original appointment of War Secretay was made, it had been conferred upon Lord Palmerston.

Mr. WALPOLE said, after the speech of Lord J. Russell, a refusal of inquiry would create a disappointment and dissatisfaction throughout the country. He denied that an inquiry would be detrimental to the public interest. It would be precisely similar to the inquiry instituted into the Walcheren expedition, except that that was conducted before the whole House; but he thought a select committee infinitely preferable. As to its hampering the army authorities, nothing could be worse than their present position, at the mercy of writers of private letters charging the generals with incapacity.

Mr. V. SMITH, contrasting those parts of the speeches of Lord Palmerston and Sir G. Grey, which referred to the state of the Cabinet, said that, if this was simply a question of confidence or no confidence, he should be prepared to vote quite at his ease, for he could not vote confidence in the Government as it existed that evening. But he put that question aside, and with respect to the proposed inquiry, who, he asked, were to be the witnesses to be examined? There ought to be a commission on the spot. Such an inquiry before a committee of that House would be utterly impracticable. He should vote against the motion.

After a few remarks by Colonel SIBTHORP, and a speech, almost inaudible, from Sir J. FITZGERALD, understood to be condemnatory of the commander of the British forces in the Crimea,

Mr. KNIGHTLEY referred to certain precedents, and on the motion of Mr. STAFFORD, with the concurrence of Lord PALMERSTON, the debate was adjourned until Monday.

THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT, THE WAR, AND THE PRESS.

In the House of Lords on Friday, the Earl of WINCHILSEA entered into a long tirade against the *Times* newspaper and its correspondents in the East, whom he accused of malignant calumny against the army and the generals. He asked whether a free passage had been afforded from England to the *Times* correspondent in any of her Majesty's ships, and whether that gentleman had been provided with rations at the public expense.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE replied that, in his opinion, the press had acted with great lack of discretion in publishing information from the seat of war, which information was speedily telegraphed to St. Petersburg. On more than one occasion Lord Raglan had complained of such proceedings, and in consequence he, the Duke of Newcastle, addressed letters to the editors of the newspapers, with a request that they would not insert information of that kind. From some of these gentlemen he received no answer. The answers that he did receive were of the most courteous description, and promising that every care should be exercised. He could only say that those promises had not been completely and thoroughly fulfilled. He said it with deep regret, that Lord Raglan had had occasion to make another complaint. He received a letter from him the day before yesterday, pointing out the same mischief in the same quarter on the 18th of December. He deeply regretted it. He did not feel it his duty to make a similar application again. He regretted that the application which he thought it his duty to make, had not been successful. In the course of his remarks the noble duke said that it was only in December that the commissariat came under his immediate direction. With reference to the particular questions put to him by Lord Winchilsea, he was enabled to deny the first; for, though a free passage had been granted to the *Times* correspondent, and though that gentleman was actually on board, the Government were apprised of the fact in time to prevent his sailing in the vessel. With regard to the second point, it had only recently come to the knowledge of the Government that the *Times* correspondent in the Crimea had been supplied with rations, and measures had been immediately taken to cut off that supply, so that the gentleman in question would be left to his own resources. He said he was not aware of any gentleman having used insulting language to Lord Raglan. All he could say was, that if any gentleman did behave in such a way, after having been remonstrated with in proper terms, and upon sufficient grounds, he should consider that Lord Raglan would be perfectly justified in sending him from the camp; and most unquestionably Lord Raglan would be supported in so doing by the Government if such an occasion arose.

The Earl of DERBY observed that the noble duke stated just now, that it was only in the month of December that the commissariat came under his control.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE replied that, as for the transference of the duties of the commissariat to the Secretary for War, he would state why that did not take place before September. Although the two secretaryships (of War and the Colonies) were divided in the month of June, it was not until December that the unfortunate secretary, represented in his (his Grace's) person, had a roof over his official head. It was therefore impossible for him to have his clerks and assistants around him, and he conducted his business, as well as he could, in two rooms lent to him by his noble friend at the head of the government, and he (the Duke of Newcastle) certainly did object under those circumstances, to take the duties of the commissariat under his control, and so the commissariat remained where it was, under the same department which had heretofore held it. The name of the officer who had given orders for allowing rations to the *Times* correspondent was Sir C. Trevelyan.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The adjourned debate on Mr. Roebuck's motion for a committee of inquiry into the state of the army in the Crimea was resumed by

Mr. A. STAFFORD, who recapitulated a number of instances testifying to neglect and mismanagement, especially as regarded the hospital service, and the treatment of diseased and wounded soldiers, which had come under his personal cognisance during his recent visit to the Crimea. He bore witness at the same time to the admirable services rendered by Miss Nightingale and her corps of nurses, and to the unshaken loyalty exhibited by the men themselves, alike in sickness and in health. The House, he contended, should respond to that noble spirit, by passing a vote whose effect would be to change a system which had occasioned so terrible a sacrifice of our heroic defenders.

Mr. B. OSBORNE remarked with pleasure that among the many criticisms pronounced upon the conduct of the war, no direct censure had been hazarded against the department to which he was himself attached—namely, the Admiralty. Adverting to the motion before the House, he commented upon the injustice of sacrificing a minister for the faults of a system. What was the real state of the case? The system of the army had been nourished, sanctioned, and confirmed by that House, and by former ministries (hear, hear); sanctioned and confirmed in spite of numerous motions made by the hon. member for Montrose and other members (hear, hear); in spite of deliberate reports made many years ago, recommending the reform and reconstruction of the whole. The military organisation of the country was altogether rotten. It could not be reformed by a mere consolidation of departments, but must be changed and purified from one end to the other, from the Horse Guards to the soldiers' barrack-rooms. Entering into details on this point, the hon. member condemned the system of promotion by purchase, the favouritism which presided over staff appointments, and the general spirit of routine and aristocratic exclusiveness that could be traced throughout every department of the army administration as regarded the upper ranks of the public service. Let any hon. gentlemen move for a return of the staff officers employed on the general staff at present in the Crimea. How many of those officers could speak French? (Laughter.) How many of them could trace a common field plan? (Hear, hear.) He ventured to say that not one-third of them could do so. The fact was that they would never have any reform till they commenced with the Horse Guards. It was very painful to him to make these remarks. (Great laughter from the Opposition.) He had, however, a superior duty to perform; he represented a large constituency. With reference to the secession of Lord John Russell, he admitted that the proceeding had destroyed the Ministry. What would be the position of any future Government? One of extreme difficulty without the noble lord. It would be very much in the position of the distracted Roman who said to his capricious partner. "Non possum vivere tecum, nec sine te." (Laughter.) He regretted the course which the noble lord had taken. He frankly owned that if he had consulted his own feelings he should have got into the captain's gig and left the crew to weather the storm; but, in such an emergency, he felt it his duty to stand by the crew and the vessel. (Laughter.) He could not reconcile it to himself—when Lord Aberdeen had been placed in a position in which no minister was ever placed before, and when he entertained the most sincere conviction that that noble lord was not only a good liberal, but an honest and good politician (Laughter)—he could not consent to desert the noble lord on such an occasion.

Admiral BERKELEY challenged investigation into the conduct of the Admiralty during the course of the war, declaring that every service which had devolved upon that department was performed with efficiency and despatch.

Mr. BERESFORD repudiated the stigma which Mr. B. Osborne had, he said, attempted to cast upon the army; and vindicated the military talents of Lord Raglan. He supported the motion, wishing for a full inquiry into all points, and especially desiring to discover the originators of the expedition to the Crimea, which he believed to have been undertaken against the advice of the Commander-in-Chief. The army itself was admirably conducted, but the adjuncts to the military operations, and in particular the transport and commissariat services, were wofully mismanaged.

Mr. RICE opposed the motion, contending that the proposed committee would enhance the difficulties of the executive, and retard the application of the remedies which were in process of adoption.

Mr. MILES added new proofs of failure and mismanagement to enforce the argument for inquiry.

Sir F. T. BARING inquired how the committee of inquiry, if appointed, were to conduct their investigation? They must either pass judgment without hearing evidence, or summon as witnesses the very men who were most busily engaged in active service, and whose absence would paralyse the operations of the army in the field. Feeling obliged to vote against the present motion, the right hon. baronet nevertheless declared that his former confidence in the administration had been shaken by the recent disclosures respecting the management of the war. Now he was bound to say that the disclosures which had come out during the debate had given him, as an habitual supporter of the Government, very great pain. He deeply regretted those disclosures, not only on account of the loss which the cabinet had sustained in the secession of his noble friend the member for London, but because circumstances had in the course of the explanations which

had been given come out which led him to doubt very much whether he could longer repose confidence in the administration of the army by those who were now at the head of the war department. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bentinck considered it of paramount importance to get rid of an incompetent ministry, and intended to support the motion as a vote of censure on the Government.

Mr. Rice eulogised the conduct of Lord John Russell, and declared that the facts which had come to light rendered inquiry, at all hazards and any inconvenience, an absolute duty.

Sir E. B. Lytton insisted that the confession of their late colleague had deprived the ministry of all excuse or defence against the call for investigation. Reviewing the history of the campaign, he dwelt upon the many tokens of neglect and omission which it exhibited. On that side of the House they had strong feelings for the calamities the public had sustained, and for the losses which individually they had had to deplore. (Cheers.) He had lost two young relations in the course of the present war, and there were thousands more who were placed in that position. All honour to the gentlemen of England—some of their kindred blood was flowing and to flow; and would the House consent to be deterred, after the accounts which they had heard that night from the hon. member for Northamptonshire, from seeking for a remedy for those evils the Government had admitted, and from inquiring into the abuses which they deplored on account of some technical objection to the words of the motion which alone could afford any redress. (Hear, hear.) If the proposed inquiry involved a vote of censure, then let it be taken as a vote of censure. (Loud cheers from the Opposition.) The Government throughout were guilty of the cardinal sin of short-sighted incompetence. Even with regard to the two measures which they passed before Christmas, one was not yet put in operation, and the other remained a dead letter. (Hear.) They had not taken the precaution to inquire how the Foreign Enlistment Bill would be received in Germany. Even in his latest despatch Lord Raglan complained of the want of means for the conveyance of the huts. The noble lord's resignation told them pretty plainly what should have been done, whilst the speech of the hon. member for Middlesex showed that if he lost a place he found a constituency. (Cheers.) With regard to the coalition Government, there was a union of party interests, but there was no coalition of party, sentiment, and feeling. (Hear, hear.) Lord Chesterfield remarked, when a man of obscure family married the daughter of a lady who had a large number of not unsuccessful admirers, that "nobody's son married everybody's daughter." (Laughter.) So he said of the present Government, that everybody's principles had united with nobody's opinions. He proceeded to comment upon the past policy and present transitory state of the Ministry, observing that the expected appointment of Lord Palmerston as War Minister might have satisfied the country some months ago, but was now too late. The greatest difficulty which that noble lord would have to encounter would arise from the armed neutrality of his late colleague. The noble lord (Russell) on Friday night endeavoured to vindicate the Whigs from the charge of exclusiveness, and the solitary instance he quoted in proof of that was their magnanimity in consenting to that partition of power which was now at an end. (Laughter.) It appeared to him that the magnanimity amounted to this, that when the Whigs could not get all the power, they reluctantly consented to accept a part. (Cheers and laughter.) It was his belief that others were as fully alive to the necessity of wise public measures, of steadfast progress, and with as much sympathy for free and enlightened institutions, as any of those great Whigs, who were always Democrats in opposition and monopolists in office. (Loud cheers.) In the last century there was a Duke of Newcastle who presided over the Department of War, who was supported by a powerful league of Whigs. (Hear, hear.) Serious blunders and disasters occurred at that time. An attempt was made to patch up that luckless administration, to infuse a few drops of new blood into that feeble, decrepid, and tottering administration; but the people became so disgusted that they became irresistible—they applied the remedy—dismissed their ministry, and saved their army. (Loud Opposition cheers.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer did not recollect an occasion on which there had been before the House such a remarkable combination of questions. Along with the fate of the Government was involved the far exceeding question of the condition of the army, and with that the function of the House of Commons to consider and apply a remedy to great national evils. With respect to the Government, what they had a right to ask was, that their position should be perfectly clear and perfectly defined in the face of the House. He denied that the Government had been formed upon "a union of interests but not of opinions." Its members had wrought together, not only in harmony but with cordiality. He had himself been praised by one (Lord John Russell) who was in a position in the House in which it was his rare privilege, that by the eulogies he confers he can confer distinction, but that he cannot receive it in return. (Cheers.) But while acknowledging his (Lord John's) kindness, he must respectfully state to the House, that at the time he announced the resignation of the office he lately held, his colleagues were entirely unaware of any difference of opinion between him and themselves. (Laughter and cheers.) His noble friend's explanation had produced an impression totally unwarranted by facts. Between his correspondence with Lord Aberdeen in November, and his resignation on Tuesday, there was a vacuum that required to be filled up. He ventured to say that, with regard to his knowledge and in the view of his colleagues, Lord John's proposal was not in existence during that period. (Hear, hear.) On the 3rd of Dec. his noble friend adhered to the opinion, that the office of Secretary at War ought to be abolished, and that of Secretary for War held by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. But on the 16th of December a Cabinet Council was held, and discussions were entered into with respect to the proceedings of the Government and the measures of the coming session. The impression made on the colleagues of the noble lord by the conversations at that Council was, that it was impossible he could retain his intention of proposing a change in the War Department; but it was not left to impressions, for on that day, Lord Aberdeen, being in some doubt as to the meaning of the President of the Council, did himself take an opportunity of ascertaining what his opinions were,—asked him whether he adhered to his proposal with reference to a change in the War Department, and his noble friend distinctly announced to him that he had changed his intentions. (Hear, hear.) He attributed that change to a conversation which he had had with a distinguished person, a friend of his—not a member of the present Cabinet, but versed in the affairs of military administration, and very friendly to the reform of the military department. (Hear, hear.) That being the case, it was obvious that all his colleagues regarded the proposal not as a proposal that was awake and alive, or one that was to be pressed upon them, but as a proposal given up and definitively abandoned. (Cheers.) Nor was there anything that occurred in the following month that induced the Government to think otherwise, because, from time to time, as Cabinet Councils met, measures were discussed; and on Saturday week Lord John himself called the attention of the Government to the subject of the formation of a War Board, and at that very Council a plan was agreed upon for giving form to measures which had, for some time, been practically in operation for combining the heads of the various War departments with a view to the practical transaction of the business of the war. It might be thought audacious in them, having lost the strength and ornament of Lord John's presence, to persevere in resisting the motion. He admitted their situation was, as had been described, a disagreeable one.

> At once, as far as angels ken, he views
> The dismal situation waste and wild.

—(Laughter.) Those blasts that come from the Opposition side of the House are not always agreeable; but if I turn for comfort to some portions of this side of the House I see a quarter where sits the hon. member for Aylesbury, and I am bound to say that from that quarter issue the coldest and most bitter blasts of all. (Great laughter.) And all the comfort I have with respect to him is, that I can see no difference between the tone of the speeches he addresses to the House now, when he avows he has withdrawn his confidence from the Government, and the tone of his speeches on various occasions when he assured the Government of his steady allegiance. (Laughter.) I think the House will agree with me that those who are charged with the responsibilities of office have something else to do besides considering the pleasures of their position. (Hear, hear.) They have something else to do even in ordinary times, but still more in times like these, under the pressure of events such as now beset your army, and in connexion with it, the country. (Hear, hear.) Now, the question is, what course was open to us to take? Were we to attempt some modification or interchange of offices that should enable us to present a more acceptable or popular front to the House of Commons? I agree with the hon. member for Aylesbury, who says that such a change wrought in such circumstances could have earned no favour for Government, but must have enhanced and accumulated suspicion upon them. (Hear, hear.) That is the part of the mariner, who, under the pressure of a tempest, sets about bargaining with his gods—

> Ad miseras preces,
> Decurrere et votis pacisci,
> Ne Cypriæ Tyriæque merces
> Addant avaro divitias mari.

—(Hear, hear.) It was not compatible with the position of the Government to offer terms to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) It would not have been compatible with the position and choice of the House of Commons to accept terms from a Government so circumstanced. (Hear, hear.) Then, if it was not open for us to modify the composition of the Government, was it open for us to abandon office under the pressure of a hostile notice? (Hear, hear.) There may be a majority here, for all I know, who are determined this night to pass a vote of censure on the Government; but I think there are few that have within them the spirit and justice of Englishmen who will not be free to own that it was the duty of the Government, having conducted public affairs up to the time when they were made the subject of a notice of censure, not to shrink from that censure. (Great cheering.) It has been well said by my right hon. friend the Secretary for the Colonies that we were determined to meet it as we stood, without forecasting the future. (Hear, hear.) It would have been audacious—it would have been altogether unjustifiable either to form a conclusion or even a design with respect to the future existence of the Government till they got the sentence and judgment of the House of Commons with respect to that existence; and if we had shrunk after notice was given from asking for judgment on our past actions, I ask in what terms we should hereafter have been described? (Hear.) What sort of an epitaph would have been written over our remains? (Cheers.) I should myself have attempted to pen that epitaph, "Here lie the dishonoured ashes of a Ministry which found England at peace and left her at war—which was content to take her emoluments of office and wield the sceptre of power so long as no one had courage to question its existence. They saw a storm gathering over the country—they heard grievances and afflicting news of the state of the sick and wounded in the East. These things did not move them; but when the hon. member for Sheffield raised his hand to point the thunderbolt at them, then they were conscience-stricken with a sense of their guilt, and, in thinking to escape from punishment, they abandoned duty." (Great cheering.)

He then proceeded to offer grounds of resistance to the motion. He denied that the expedition was in a hopeless cond[illegible] worst features were being alleviated—sickness had diminished—huts were being erected—winter clothing had been distributed—the railway corps had by this time arrived, and would in three weeks have completed their work—there were 30,000 men, including the naval brigade, fit for duty,—and General Canrobert had relieved the British army from duties which properly belonged to the French, to the amount of 1,800 men in the trenches, equivalent to a reinforcement of 5,000 soldiers.

I have spoken of the statement that the army consists of 12,000 men, and that statement goes abroad, and is received as gospel by well-intentioned members of the community. Indeed, it was my lot yesterday morning to hear it preached as gospel before a large congregation. (Cheers and laughter.) A most meritorious clergyman, addressing one of the most intelligent flocks in London, stated that the army sent out to the East was, at present, represented by far less than one-third of its numbers before Sebastopol. I hope we are not driven to that melancholy and miserable conclusion, that our army of 1854 is gone, and that we have nothing to do but to consider of the formation of an army of 1855. There have been many calamities, there have been many faults, there have been many great and glorious actions attended with loss; in some instances the hand of Providence has descended in a manner which could not be foreseen,—idle have been our best hopes,—agony has been brought to our tenderest feelings, but we are not driven to the conclusion that the army which left these shores, the finest ever despatched from England, is numbered among the things which are past. (Loud cheers.)

He did not say these things as cancelling the past. He admitted that the condition of the army had been "horrible and heartrending." He admitted the inevitable evils of war had been aggravated by avoidable causes. But he would balance against each other the charges made by various speakers. They had been charged with penuriousness—perhaps when the estimates were brought forward they would be charged with profusion. One member said the army had been starved—another that heaps of luxuries lay rotting at Balaklava. They had been blamed for not wintering at Odessa—if they had done so, they would have had to defend an open town against several hundred thousands of the enemy. Besides, what would they have had the Government do? Recall Lord Raglan? recall even his subordinates? No: they could only address to the commander inquiries, and those inquiries had been addressed and acted upon. The motion had been supported by reference to the Walcheren expedition inquiry. It differed from that in several particulars—of which the most important was, that we then had no ally. He warned them, that in appointing a committee upon an operation yet incomplete, they would exceed the functions of Parliament, and disappoint the country. After dwelling on these points, he concluded:—

You may deprive us of the character of Ministers, but we remain members of Parliament, and as members of Parliament we have a common interest with you in the character and in the dignity of the House of Commons. Now, sir, what is the foundation of that character and of that dignity? Your power is a gigantic power; but it is gigantic on account of the prudence—on account of the sense of justice and of propriety with which you are commonly content to wield it. (Cheers.) Rely upon it, the House of Commons in this free country can no more afford to disregard the rules which former prudence has laid down, or stoop to the use of indirect means to delude the country with promises which it does not mean to fulfil, than can any other body, however inferior. It is as needful for the House of Commons as it is for anybody in this country—I would say that it is more needful for it—to remain within the limits which are marked out for its province, if it wish to continue on the proud eminence to which the labours of those who preceded you have raised it. (Hear, hear.) If this motion be passed, as it is quite possible that it may, no doubt it will bring great relief to the members of the Administration, but it will impose upon you a corresponding responsibility. (Hear, hear.) You may not feel it. I see here many who have had but a short experience in this House, and who are called upon to vote on a great question without, perhaps, having the means of fully seeing all that it involves. For my own part, this I say—that I am sensible, whatever Government may arise out of the ashes of that which may be about to fall, that it will be the duty of every patriotic citizen to render to it every support which he conscientiously can give it. (Cheers.) Further, with respect to those who may vote for the motion which is now, perhaps, about to pass, I venture also to say that it will be their duty; the duty of the men, the duty of the party, be they who they may, if they should be called upon to assist in filling the vacuum which they have gone to such lengths to create, not to shrink from that task. Whether they do so or not, however, I earnestly hope that the House, in the vote which it is about to give, will recollect its respect to the country, and will consider the mode of proceeding which it is about to adopt. For my part, I believe that mode of proceeding to be worse than useless so far as regards the army in the Crimea. Your inquiry will never take place as a real inquiry; or, if it did, it would lead to nothing but confusion and disturbance, increased disaster, shame at home, and weakness abroad; it would convey no consolation to those whom you seek to aid, but it would carry malignant joy to the hearts of the enemies of England (cheers); and, for my part, I ever shall rejoice, if this motion is to-night to be carried, that my own last words, as a member of the Cabinet of the Earl of Aberdeen, had been words of solemn and earnest protest against a proceeding which has no foundation either in the constitution or in the practice of preceding Parliaments, which is useless and mischievous for the purpose which it appears to contemplate, and which, in my judgment, is full of danger to the power, dignity, and usefulness of the Commons of England. (The right hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid loud cheers.)

Mr. Disraeli, in supporting the motion, reviewed and combatted the objections that had been urged against it during the debate. He denied that it implied a censure upon Lord Raglan, that it was unconstitutional in character, or inconvenient in its results. Considered as a vote of no confidence in the Government, he demanded whether it expressed a want of confidence in the Government that was, or that is, or that is to be? Adverting to the personal defences

offered on behalf of the Duke of Newcastle, he professed himself unable to distinguirh between one member of a ministry and his colleagues, and unwilling to allow of a single member of the Cabinet being made the scapegoat for the offences of the whole body: he had refused to support a motion of that character from the opposite side of the House. Other ministers, besides the War Secretary had shown themselves deficient in energy and ability. Chief among them was the Home Secretary, who had evinced much dilatoriness in carrying out the legislative preliminaries requisite for the embodiment of the Scotch and Irish militia. The evils were not those of detail; the failures did not arise from the incapacity of a single department, but from the tortuous policy and general want of sagacity of the whole administration. He proceeded to remark upon the signs of disunion which had been apparent among the members of the Government, and in reference to the facts disclosed by the recent ministerial explanations, declared that they exhibited the existence of what in the language of the last century would have been called "a profligate intrigue." Could the country blame him, could even the Government blame him, for voting no confidence in what one of themselves had proved to be a deplorable administration? (Cheers.)

Lord JOHN RUSSELL made a short explanatory speech. He indignantly repudiated the charge made by Mr. Disraeli of having engaged in "a profligate intrigue," and cited precedents of precisely similar conduct among ministers of different parties, whose honour and reputation were unimpeachable. His recommendation, to Lord Aberdeen respecting the re-arrangement of the war ministry were dictated solely by considerations for the public service, which he still believed might have been adopted with benefit both to the country and the Administration. There had been no concealment on his part. His proposition had been submitted to the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Sidney Herbert, who both said they were willing to concur in any arrangement that might be made which would conduce to the public service. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that at that time there was no general impression against the administration of the Duke of Newcastle, he thought it was a strong reason in favour of the arrangement he had proposed. He believed if it had been then adopted it would have been for the reputation of the noble duke, who must always be considered a man of sound judgment in public affairs, and well qualified to fill a public office, although not of sufficient authority to conduct the operations of the war in spite of everything.

Lord PALMERSTON accepted the motion as conveying a censure which must be equally shared among all the members of the Government. He was convinced that scant justice had been done to the Duke of Newcastle. "I am sure the day will come when a more correct and a juster estimate will be formed of the abilities and devotion of that noble duke to the service of his country." (Cheers.) Denying the assertion that any singular diversity of opinion had prevailed in the Cabinet, the noble lord remarked upon the impossibility, as parties were at present constituted, of forming an administration except upon the principle of coalition. Briefly referring to the tenor of the motion under discussion, he submitted that the failures complained of arose either from causes beyond human control, or from the unavoidable inexperience and disorganisation produced during the lapse of a long peace. The committee of inquiry must either prove a delusion, or occasion a paralysis in the executive at home and the army abroad.

If hon. members of this house had meant to call in question the conduct of the war, the motion ought to have been directed to that object, and it would have been a fair and legitimate object for discussion in this House. You might then have justly impugned the policy of Government in regard to the operations of the war, and we should have been prepared to go into our defence upon that question. But I most humbly think that the source now pursued is one likely to set a most dangerous precedent in Parliamentary proceedings. (Hear, hear.)

The Government were also assailed indirectly, and by means little honourable to the opposition that employed them. He concluded in the following terms:—

Sir, we are engaged in a great and arduous contest. Whatever may be the decision of the House on the Government which now stands before you, I think it just, at least, that the dissensions which prevail now should be confined to the present Government—that whatever Government may succeed will not present to Europe the most lamentable spectacle of a country interrupted by paltry political squabbles in a great national undertaking, but that Parliament, following the example of the nation it represents, will be unanimous in its determination that the war shall be carried on with vigour and energy. As the nation is deeply convinced of the justice of the war, and firmly calls for that war not to be concluded without such a termination as will secure future safety against the recurrence of those dangers to avert which we have been driven to take up arms, so I trust, whatever may be the fate of the Government, and the decision of this night, when this House has said what Government it will have—when this House shall have given its confidence to any set of men who may be intrusted hereafter with the conduct of public affairs, it will give its hearty support to that Government to enable it to carry out the wishes and determination of the nation—that it will not show to Europe that a constitutional Government is less able to conduct its affairs than Governments founded on a different principle, and that we shall not discredit Parliamentary institutions by letting the world believe they are not capable of standing the difficulties of a great crisis, or that the nation can only display its energy and act with perseverance, consistency, and vigour, when it is deprived of those constitutional representative forms which have been the pride, the glory, and the foundation of the prosperity of the country. (Cheers)

Mr. MUNTZ was equally ready to support the motion, either as a vote of censure or a proposal for inquiry.

Mr. HORSMAN, amidst much impatience for a division, endeavoured to explain the motives which had induced himself and other independent Liberals to support a coalition ministry.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked whether the motion was really designed to institute a full inquiry into the state of the army, or would result merely in ousting the occupants of the treasury bench.

Mr. ROEBUCK replied that his motion for a committee was honestly framed, and, if he were supported by the House, should be honestly carried out. The hon. member then referred to the arguments urged in opposition to his motion, and denied their validity.

The Ministers themselves admit that the disasters to which the motion relates have occurred, and they acknowledge that the condition of the army is, in the words of the noble lord the member for London, "heartrending." (Hear, hear.) This House has given to the Ministry power, an unlimited command of money (hear), in fact, no demand has been made on this House that has not been willingly granted, and they have had the power given them to supply all that was required for the army. What is the condition of that army? and what is the condition of the Ministry? Paralyze them! Have they not acted under a continual paralysis? (Hear, hear.) Can they do worse than they have done? Judging of the future from the past, can the resolution, if carried, convey into the departments of the Government a single degree more of ignorance, incapacity, and inaptitude? (Cheers.) The Ministers have not only acknowledged the state of the army, but have stated, in the course of this debate, that they have placed on the shores of Balaklava stores sufficient for a larger army than ours. Is this statement made by the Secretary of War, to be accepted as an excuse by this House? He says the whole distance from this country to the camp before Sebastopol is 3,006 miles; the 3,000 miles are easily got over, but the last six are insuperably difficult. Shall this be said to this country with its net-work of railways spread over it, and in which exertion of every kind is a part of the habit of the country? in which exertion is made a thing of every day occurrence, and in which (here the hon. member became somewhat confused, but soon resumed.) I will now pass on to address the Opposition. The country has hitherto had confidence in this Administration, we have conceded to them power and the destiny of a great army, and, added to that, the destinies of this great country. The Ministry has failed the people. (Hear, hear.) Their confidence is now placed in this House, and are we to fail them? Inquiry is before us—it is in our hands—there has been a confession of incapacity on the part of the Ministry—the army is melting away; and shall it be said that this House refuses to make an inquiry because there is some constitutional or technical point urged against it? Let the House remember, if they refuse to grant this inquiry they will be answerable for any disaster that may hereafter occur. (Hear, hear.) The people will say, an inquiry was proposed—a confession of incapacity was made. You refused inquiry; you abdicated your functions and you are answerable. (Hear, hear.) I hope the House will not abdicate its functions. We are told to wait till the expedition is over; but that will be till our army is lost. I say—Inquire. Save our army; the confidence of the people is in this House, and I hope you will not disappoint their expectations. (Cheers.)

The House then divided on the motion for a committee. The numbers were—

Ayes	305
Noes	148
Majority against the Government	—157

The announcement of the numbers was received without cheering.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

In the House of Lords on Monday, EARL GREY, pursuant to notice, moved a resolution setting forth that the administration of the army ought to be concentrated and brought under the control of a single and well-organised department. It was notorious that a great part of the disasters which had befallen them in the Crimea arose out of their want of organisation, and that complicated and cumbersome mode of administering business which had so long prevailed in this country was, because they had had a Secretary at War, a Commander-in-Chief, a Board of Ordnance, and a Commissariat Department, carrying on a voluminous correspondence with each other, with the other departments of the Government, and with the officers serving abroad. Mistakes and errors had taken place, and when mistakes had not occurred, the most ordinary arrangements had only been effected with a loss of time, which, in war, was too often a loss of everything. He gave two illustrations of the working of the system. Mr. Nasmyth had been employed to manufacture wrought iron artillery. But in consequence of misapprehension between different departments, his work was suspended for a fortnight. Price's Patent Candle Company had offered to supply the troops in the Crimea with "candle stoves." The Secretary at War looked very favourably upon the proposal and referred it to the Ordnance, and they had been refered from one office to another. They still await a decision till the medical department has given an opinion upon it. A great part of the present evils were referrable to errors in the administration of the army—such as promotion by seniority, want of instruction of officers and men in the use of arms and modern contrivances for facilitating labour. There was no reason why every soldier in the British army should not be as well instructed as the Sappers and Miners. He denied that Parliament had been niggard in granting supplies. He never yet saw a single instance in which the House of Commons refused a vote of money which was necessary for the real efficiency of the service. (Hear, hear.) The total money spent upon our army, ordnance, and navy, during the seventeen years ending in 1853, was no less than £217,000,000. £15,500,000 annually have been applied to this object; and would any man tell him that so vast a sum as £15,500,000 a-year, if judiciously applied, was not ample to keep up an armament quite sufficient for all peace purposes, and sufficient as a nucleus for more extended preparations when war took place? (Hear.) What they wanted was something like the administration at the Admiralty. The Admiralty performed every function with regard to the navy which one would expect to devolve upon it. They needed the consolidation of the offices of the Secretary for War, the Commander-in-Chief, the Board of Ordnance, and the Commissariat. They ought, in his opinion, to have one single and well constituted department, which should do for the army that which is done for the navy—that is, provide an efficient instrument to execute the orders of the Government, whatever those orders may be. The Commander-in-Chief he proposed to include *ex officio* among the members of the board, but not to invest him with the principal authority there. He would suggest, also, that the whole patronage of the army should be placed in the hands of the proposed board.

It is now nearly twenty years ago since I had the honour of accepting the office of Secretary at War, and I can confidently state that I had discharged the duties of that office for a very short period before I perceived a necessity for the introduction of many great improvements, but under the complicated system of the present administration so slow and weary was the work of effecting the changes which I perceived to be necessary that, although I applied my best energies to the task, and although I hope I was not altogether unsuccessful in introducing some improvements, still I retired from that office with a painful consciousness that what had been done was a small part indeed of what remained to do. I believe that other Secretaries at War have experienced the same feelings; because I have perceived that gentlemen who have successively held that office have endeavoured to follow out a career of improvement, and that yet all that has been done falls far short of what is necessary. I am fully persuaded that there never will be, nor never can be, any effectual correction of the evils which I have pointed out, until you place the management of the army, as all other branches of the public service are placed, under the direct and immediate control of some one office presided over by one of the responsible advisers of the Crown.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE explained the principles on which, in his opinion, the consolidation of the war departments should be effected. Referring to the condition of the army in the Crimea, he attributed the privations it had undergone principally to the want of education both in officers and men, and especially as regarded what were called camp services. He proceeded to comment at some length upon the numerous deficiencies in the military resources of the country, occasioned by a long peace and a too strict economy. Three officers, he stated, had been despatched to Paris to inquire into the working of the French military system, and Lord Raglan had been requested to make similar inquiries in the French camp. Great advantage was to be anticipated from the resu't of these investigations. Reverting to the immediate subject before the House, the Secretary-of-War detailed the reasons which led him to believe that a board would be a most cumbrous and inefficient machine for the performance of the duties that fell upon the various departments of the war administration, and was calculated to result in serious embarrassments, and a dangerous division of responsibilities.

Viscount HARDINGE described some of the improvements in the organisation of the army and the management of military affairs which had been lately introduced, or were in course of adoption. Any superiority which the French army exhibited was, he urged, attributable, not to the greater excellence of their system, which was in many points copied from our own, but to the extensive experience gathered in the Algerian campaigns. He should be happy to agree to any proposal which might tend to the improvement of the army; and should he be a member of any commission on the subject, he trusted that he should bring to it the fair and impartial spirit that he did to that which sat last year. (Hear, hear.)

Lord CAMPBELL urged upon Earl Grey not to withdraw his motion. It had been frankly met and acceded to, and he thought it highly advisable that the resolution should be placed on the records of the House, as it was the unanimous opinion of all present.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH believed that the failures which were so much lamented had originated in the Crimea, and not at home. He objected to the motion as being ill-timed in the pending crisis both of military and ministerial affairs; as well as to the schemes it embodied. The proposal for transferring the whole patronage of the army virtually to the ministers of the Crown was, he considered, especially objectionable.

Earl GLEY briefly replied, withdrawing his resolution.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the Commons on Thursday, Sir George Grey laid on the table addresses and resolutions passed by public bodies in various British Colonies in reference to the War; among them, a joint address from the Council and Legislative Assembly of Canada, tendering their congratulations to her Majesty on the glorious successes of her army, and expressing a readiness to contribute to the fund for the relief of the widows and children of the soldiers. He had since received two drafts of £10,000 each, voted for that purpose. (Cheers.) The right hon. baronet further stated, that he had received a despatch informing him that the Clergy Reserves Bill and the Seigneury Tenures Bill had been passed into a law.

On Monday the Duke of NEWCASTLE in reply to Lord VIVIAN, said that the Light Cavalry charge at Balaklava had been the subject of correspondence which had only just been brought to a close, and would probably be soon published. Government had after careful consideration resolved to advise her Majesty to provide that a cross of military merit shall be instituted which shall be applicable to all ranks of the army in future. It was not intended to affect in any way the present Order of the Bath, but that a separate cross of military merit should be granted, which should be attainable by all ranks of the army, and which he hoped might be an object of ambition to all, from the general who commanded down to the private in the ranks.

Replying to Colonel North, Mr. ADAIR, as a member of the finance committee of the Patriotic Fund, stated his opinion that some portion of that fund might be given to the widows and orphans of officers,

but that every case in which such allowance was made must be investigated with care and be regarded as altogether exceptional.

Mr. H. Berkeley gave notice of a motion for an address to the Crown praying for an inquiry into the conduct of Lieut.-General Lord Lucan, respecting the order which resulted in the fatal charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at the battle of Balaklava.

In reply to a question from Major Beresford, the Secretary at War read a letter from Sir C. Trevelyan, stating that instructions had been sent to the Commissary-General Filder to issue rations to the correspondents of all the English journals who might apply for them, upon their paying full value for the same.

OBITUARY.

Sir Frankland Lewis, who had occupied various offices of honour and trust for forty years, but who was perhaps best known as Chairman of the Poor-law Commission in the early years of its existence, died on Monday week. He represented Beaumaris from 1812 till 1826; Knnis for the next two years; Radnorshire from 1828 to 1835; and the Radnor district since 1847. The title descends to his son, Mr. George Cornewall Lewis, formerly in Parliament and in public administration, but now editor of the *Edinburgh Review*.

The venerable Julius Charles Hare, M.A., archdeacon of Lewes, died on Tuesday last at Hurstmonceux rectory. The rev. gentleman, was one of her Majesty's chaplains, vicar of Hurstmonceux, and a prebendary of Chichester cathedral. By his death, what is styled the Broad party in the Church of England has lost one of its most able and zealous adherents. The archdeacon belonged to that section of the Church which is identified neither with Tractarian nor Evangelical sentiments—whose views savour rather of the theology of Germany than of the doctrines either of Geneva or of Rome. Mr. Hare was well known as an attached friend and correspondent of the late Dr. Arnold, and was highly respected for his literary attainments and his irreproachable moral character.

Joseph Phillimore Esq., D.C.L. and F.R.S., Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Oxford, Chancellor of the diocese, a deputy lieutenant of the county of Oxford, and one of the Busby trustees, died on Wednesday last, at his residence at Shiplake. His Latin and English style is said to have been unrivalled for its purity and eloquence.

The Edinburgh papers record the death of Andrew Crichton, LL.D. As an author and member of the periodical press, Dr. Crichton had long been before the public. In this place we can merely enumerate his "Lives of Converts from Infidelity," "Translation of Koch's History of Revolutions," published in *Constable's Miscellany*—his "History of Arachia," published in the *Cabinet Library*—his "Lives of Blackadder and Colonel Gardiner"—his edition of the "Life of John Knox"—his "History of Scandinavia"—as examples of his literary labour. Before his death, Dr. Chrichton was engaged upon, and nearly finished, a work on Russia, now passing through the press. He was long an office-bearer in the Church of Scotland, and sat repeatedly in the General Assembly.

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

The principle of a cheap ocean postage has been recognized and adopted, both by the American and English Governments. The former has adopted the penny rate as the charge for ocean transit, upon a single letter, between the ports of the United States and those of Australia; whilst the English and French Governments have just signed a postal convention which virtually fixes a halfpenny for the transport of a single letter across the English Channel. Four pence is to be the entire cost of a letter from any town in Great Britain to any town in France, and the inland postage of the two countries being respectively one penny and twopence hafpenny, will leave one halfpenny for the sea transit from shore to shore. This is, we trust, only a prelude to the adoption by the British Government of a system of universal ocean penny postage, as well as a system of universal inland penny post, by the governments of other states. Towards this final consummation the efforts of postal reformers are steadily directed, with a good prospect of success.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP ACT.

The following article appeared in the *Economist* of Saturday:—

On the motion of the Secretary of the Treasury, the House of Commons last night resolved to go into a committee of the whole House on Monday next, in order to consider the laws relating to the Newspaper Stamp Acts. According to the notices of motion distributed this morning, the Chancellor of the Exchequer will upon that occasion propose certain resolutions for the adoption of Parliament, as the groundwork of a new act to be introduced pursuant thereto, from which we collect that the following will be the main features of it. All the existing laws in relation to the press will be repealed—as well those which relate to stamping, as those which relate to registration and securities. It will then be provided that not only newspapers, but any printed single publication of any kind, not exceeding four ounces in weight, shall pass through the Post-office either with an impressed stamp, as at present, or with the ordinary postage head. But we understand there will be this difference in favour of newspapers or other publications which are published with an impressed stamp, that they will be entitled to re-transmission through the Post-office for seven days after the date of publication, while the common adhesive stamp, affixed at any time after publication, will entitle the same to be transmitted only once. It will, however, be optional to publish any portion of a newspaper so stamped beforehand and carrying the privilege of re-transmission and the remainder of the edition unstamped. Thus, in point of fact, the practice will be to treat all printed matter alike, and to carry through the Post-office to any part of the United Kingdom, for one penny, any single publication not exceeding four ounces, with the privilege of re-transmission within seven days in the case referred to. In respect to copyright and libel, newspapers will thus also be placed in the same situation only as other publications. A more complete and entire change of the present law, reducing it to the greatest simplicity, could not possibly have been proposed.

The debate on Mr. Roebuck's motion so entirely monopolised Monday evening, that the proposed committee on the Newspaper Stamp Act was postponed till Friday, probably to be further deferred. Whether or not Mr. Gladstone be a member of the next Administration there is little doubt that this will be one of its measures of domestic policy. The newspaper stamp may therefore be considered as doomed. We have no doubt that, in the course of three months at most, we shall be able to congratulate our readers upon the abolition of this obnoxious fiscal impost.

Postscript.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. It was attended by all the Ministers with the exception of Sir James Graham (who is indisposed). The council sat one hour.

The Earl of Aberdeen left town after the Cabinet Council for Windsor Castle to have an audience of the Queen. The noble earl returned to town soon after six o'clock last evening.

The *Globe* of yesterday evening contains a record of "Ministerial movements" but they are of little importance. Several members of the late Government had interviews with the Earl of Aberdeen, and it appears that Mr. Sidney Herbert had lengthened consultations with Lord Palmerston at his residence in Carlton Gardens. The Marquis of Lansdowne received Sir G. Grey and Earl Granville. "It was very generally anticipated through town that the Marquis of Lansdowne would be sent for by her Majesty. Lord Palmerston received no political visitors yesterday morning, with the exception of Mr. Sidney Herbert, as before stated. His lordship having read the papers transmitted to him, proceeded about twelve o'clock to the Home-office, for the transaction of business. Lord J. Russell had no political visitors yesterday, and did not leave his house. Sir James Graham is still confined to his bed through indisposition, and is consequently unable to take any active part in the settlement of the present ministerial difficulties."

The *Times* of this morning speaks of the possible Ministerial combinations as three in number.

First, with regard to a Tory Government. "The chances of a Derby Administration may at present be summarily dismissed. The Tory party in the House of Commons is powerful, but it has not the majority; a dissolution of Parliament is not likely to improve its prospects; and the ability of its leaders is not such as to compensate for their want of numerical strength and popularity. Mr. Disraeli's last appearances in the House of Commons have indicated no progress in his character as a statesman or his skill as an orator; and Sir John Pakington and Sir Bulwer Lytton are not the knights to hang up their shields to be challenged à *l'outrance* by all comers. Lord Derby might perhaps obtain the valuable assistance of Lord Ellenborough in the War Department, and Lord Colchester has been spoken of for the Admiralty; but we suspect this expedient will not be tried until every other has failed, and we can place no confidence on its duration or success."

The possibility of a Lansdowne-Russell administration is then discussed, and, attention is called to the remarkable conversation between the Earl of Aberdeen and Lord John Russell, mentioned by Mr. Gladstone, as highly discreditable to the late President of the Council: "Of all the Ministerial projects now afloat, that of a pure Whig Cabinet is by far the weakest and the worst; and, after the circumstances which have marked the resignation of Lord John Russell, we question if there are many of his late colleagues who would consent to place their political capital in his hands."

The *Times* then speaks of the third possible combination. "We revert, therefore, with increased confidence to Lord Palmerston as the only man who is able to give an energetic direction to the war as head of the Government, and at the same time to retain the services of the ablest members of the Liberal party. Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle are, of course, removed by the fall of the late cabinet, and we fear that Sir James Graham's illness is such as to give uneasiness to his friends, and to exclude him from a new Ministry. Sir George Grey and Sir Charles Wood are doubtful, for they are said to be divided between the claims of their country and the exigencies of the party leader who just one week ago forsook them without notice. But the place of the former could with advantage be filled by Sir W. Molesworth, and there is no reason that the country should lose Mr. Gladstone, whose eloquence, even in defending a hopeless cause, has no equal in the House of Commons. At this critical moment, too, it would be a public misfortune if the seals of the Foreign-office were transferred from Lord Clarendon to a Minister less able or less intimately acquainted with the present state of Europe. The success of a Ministry of which Lord Palmerston would be the head depends, however, in great measure, on his obtaining the co-operation of Lord Grey in the direction of military affairs. In the internal administration of the country no man would fill a higher office more ably than Mr. Baines. Of men not previously connected with the Government there are several whose talents and standing entitle them to office, and, among others, Mr. Layard might with advantage be called upon to submit his administrative abilities to the criticism he has lavished upon others, and to show that he is capable of better things than he has yet given evidence of."

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

Yesterday, being King Charles the Martyr's Day, the House of Lords did not sit.

In the House of Commons, Major Rain gave notice, for the 13th of February, of his intention to move for a committee of inquiry into the system of army promotion.

Lord Palmerston, after alluding to the pending ministerial crisis, moved that the house should adjourn until Thursday, on which day he intimated some explanations would be offered by the Prime Minister in the House of Lords. The motion was agreed to.

Leave was given to Sir G. Grey to bring in a bill authorising the conclusion of a treaty respecting the fisheries between Her Majesty and the United States of America; and to Mr. F. Peel for a bill amending the Passengers Act.

The house adjourned at half-past four o'clock, to Thursday next.

THE WAR.

According to accounts from St. Petersburg of the 30th, a despatch from Prince Menschikoff had been received there, with news from Sebastopol to the 22nd. The Prince reports several night sorties against the left wing of the enemy (the French) and the trenches, in which the allies suffered great loss. Two officers and several soldiers were made prisoners. In the camp of the allies the want of fuel was severely felt, and the troops were burning the beams of the ancient Temple of Chersonesus. They had also destroyed its dome and the ornaments.

It is announced from Turin that about the 12th or 15th of February a concentration of all the troops will take place in the plains of Marengo, where they will be reviewed by the King of Sardinia.

The Turin correspondent of the *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa states that the Marquis Massimo d'Azeglio, or the Marquis Alfieri, will proceed to Vienna to represent Piedmont at the conferences expected to open there. A telegraph from Turin of the 28th instant informs us that five bureaux of the chamber, out of seven, had already elected their members for the committee charged with the task of examining the convention entered into with France and England. The members so appointed were all favourable to the alliance.

According to a Prussian despatch dated January 21, addressed to the Cabinets of London and of Paris, the Prussian Cabinet considers that the result of the last conferences at Vienna harmonises with the views of Prussia, but she is uninformed of the preceding deliberations. It regards the admission of a Prussian representative to the Vienna Conferences as indispensable to Prussia's accession to the treaty. The former Vienna protocols entail obligations, but they also confer rights.

A letter from Constantinople, dated January 11th, states that General Canrobert had directed the French Commandant at Constantinople to retain all troops there on their way to the seat of war. The writer conjectures that the French General feels himself able to carry out his plans with the force in hand.

Bucharest, Jan. 29.—Omar Pasha has resigned. The reason is that Ismail Pasha, who is at the head of the army of Roumelia, has not been made subject to his orders.

Four of the officers of the Baggage and Land Transport Corps have started for the East. Colonel M'Murdo and others will follow. Colonel Napier is to remain at home, with a staff, to superintend the recruiting and the formation of a depôt at Woolwich.

CORN-EXCHANGE, Mark-lane, Wednesday, Jan. 31, 1855.

With good supplies of foreign Wheat and Oats our trade for these articles is for the moment rather depressed, still prices may be considered equal to those of Monday last. Barley, Beans, and Peas without alteration.

Arrivals this week.—Wheat, English, 520 qrs.; Foreign, 18,590 qrs. Barley, English, 2,810 qrs.; Foreign, 230 qrs. Oats, English, 370 qrs.; Irish, 10,630 qrs.; Foreign, 15,350 qrs. Flour, English, 1,860 sacks; Foreign, 5,000 barrels.

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Covers for binding the *Nonconformist*, price 3s. each, and Portfolios for filing the current volume, price 4s. each, may be had at the Publishing-office, or through bookseller or agent.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"B." We have no room for his letter.

"R. Bockett." He cannot—but of course the law is never likely to be put in force.

"Felix Nicholson." We did not think it advisable to re-open the subject of his letter at the time, or we would have inserted it. It has never been our rule, and would be very inconvenient, to acknowledge all communications sent to the Editor.

The announcement in our paper of the 10th inst. of the marriage of Mr. C. Crane with Miss E. Raves was untrue—no such marriage having taken place. We are sorry to have been the means of giving currency to so annoying a fabrication, and still more that the handwriting, in which the announcement was made has, thus far, failed to betray the author of so shameful an imposition.

*** We have received a letter from Mr. Pratt, the Publisher of the *British Banner*, in reply to the "Statement" from our own Publisher, inserted in our last number. We have already inserted one letter from that gentleman, and decline to insert more. Mr. Pratt can scarcely suppose that we are going to open our columns to him to attack *ad libitum* the Publisher of this paper. We can devote our space to a more useful purpose; and at such a crisis as the present, our readers would not, we are sure, thank us for giving prominence to Mr. Pratt's angry attacks and inuendoes. Mr. Pratt insinuates that Mr. Freeman's statement of our circulation during the second quarter of last year is open to doubt. All we can say is we have examined it and find it strictly accurate. We, therefore, beg to decline giving insertion to Mr. Pratt's insinuations. That gentleman further denies that 5,000 copies of the *Banner* were taken by religious societies during the month of May in last year, and declares that not more than one third of that number were taken. We give Mr. Pratt the benefit of the statement; notwithstanding that he impugns the veracity of our Publisher. Neither Mr Freeman, nor ourselves, have any desire to institute invidious comparisons. But when others *commence* that game, it becomes us to tell the whole truth in self-defence. If Mr. Pratt has more to say, we would advise him to publish it in the congenial pages of the journal he represents. Meanwhile, we will just remind him, and the editor of the *Banner*, that the attack on Mr. Miall, which recently filled nearly an entire supplement of that paper, was being sent *gratis* into the country *as late as last week*.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1855.

SUMMARY.

THE division of Monday night, which was more than two to one against the late Government, is, like the disastrous expedition to which it refers, without precedent in the history of this country. It was no party conflict, but a deliberate condemnation by the House of Commons of that huge organization which has made our military force a sham instead of a reality, and of the Ministers who were unwilling or incompetent to amend it. "The vast *prestige* of that naval and military organization, which we have been nursing so sedulously for these forty years, at the cost of £15,000,000 a-year has, (says the *Times*) gone with a touch at the moment of trial." Just one hundred years ago, as Sir E. Bulwer Lytton felicitously pointed out, the nation was in a similar position. The reputation of England was tarnished, and her army destroyed. Then the House of Commons, narrow and corrupt though it was, became the mouthpiece of the nation. A worthless Government was deposed and the elder Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, called to the helm. The great Commoner commenced his career as Premier by carrying out his stern resolves in the teeth of vested interests, in defiance of tradition, in the face of all the clamours of ministerial functionaries. The result is too well-known to need repetition. It remains to be seen whether the parallel will hold good throughout—whether at the present juncture there is one man capable of confronting our routine system, re-organising our military establishments, and bringing the disastrous war in which we are concerned to a speedy and successful close.

At present there is every appearance of events following their ordinary course. The Aberdeen Ministry has resigned and an interregum has followed. Thus far no new combination has been formed, but some progress to that end will probably be made in the course of to-day. It is assumed,—and the Conservative organs countenance the belief—that a Derby Administration is at present impracticable. A Whig Ministry under Lord John Russell is even less likely. We are not surprised, therefore, to learn that, though the late President of the Council was "at home" yesterday, he was not visited by any of his political friends. After Mr. Gladstone's disclosures on Monday night even Whig statesmen will be chary of joining a Cabinet, of which the noble lord might become a possible member. Another Coalition Government seems the probable solution of the Ministerial crisis—a Ministry, with Lord Palmerston as Premier, Lord Clarendon as Foreign Secretary, Sir James Graham, if his health is equal to its duties, as Secretary for the Admiralty, and Mr. Gladstone as Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is supposed that the strong repugnance of the Court to Lord Palmerston will have to be laid aside at this juncture of affairs. Perhaps it may turn out that the late Home Secretary, when invested with the full responsibility of Premier, will exhibit but little of that administrative energy and less of that bellicose propensity, for which his admirers give him credit. The best test of his sincere desire to meet the national demands, will be the appointment of War Minister—an office for which Earl Grey is unquestionably the fittest man.

So far as the report of "Ministerial movements" is concerned, we are not surprised to find no mention made of that crochetty but independent statesman. The *Times* boldly and earnestly designates him as the future War Minister, and calls upon him not to falter in his chosen career as a military reformer, nor allow personal considerations to prevent his acceptance of that responsible post. In fact, the general view of the unprecedented crisis of Monday is incomplete which omits to take into account the proceedings of the Upper as well as the Lower House. The former was a key to the latter. Earl Grey had a grand opportunity, and made the best of it. His motion for consolidating the different military departments in the hands of one responsible Minister of the Crown was supported by a speech as remarkable for its statesman-like ability and calmness as for the boldness of its proposed reforms. It is certainly more worthy of the present crisis than anything yet been advanced by our leading statesmen. Earl Grey suggests that our military affairs shall be administered as is the navy, by a Board, at the head of which is to be a Minister of War—a member of the Cabinet, and responsible to Parliament. He would thus abolish the anomalous office of Commander-in-Chief, and do away with conflicting authorities in military matters. Both army and navy would then be directly under the controul of the Executive and the Legislature; and the Horse Guards and our military chiefs would no longer be able to thwart the reforming measures of the Government of the day. Earl Grey would put an end to promotion by seniority, and carry out a thorough system of training both for officers and men which would give them constant employment, and enable them to simplify those operations which depend upon labour, and make them expert and self-reliant. He justly maintains that the House of Commons has been rather profuse than niggard in the expenditure of public money upon the two Services—as witness the fact that in seventeen years, our warlike expenditure has amounted to £217,000,000. Such is a bare outline of the views of the "military reformer" of the day, who is no mere *dilletante* theorist, but who has been Secretary at War, and has, for years past, devoted his attention to the subject. Of course his motion was not pressed to a division, and it remains to be seen how far his lordship would be disposed to give effect to his views on our military system, when clothed with the responsibility of office.

The extracts from correspondence we have given elsewhere, show how little relief there is to the "horrible and heartrending" accounts recently received from the Crimea. It is true that the warm clothing has at length been generally distributed, but the huts for the shelter of our troops cannot be removed to the camp for want of conveyance, the soldiers continued to feed upon raw rations, the army was without fuel, and Balaklava has run the risk of a fearful catastrophe from the culpable carelessness of the authorities in charge of powder and other explosives. Two regiments arrived in harbour had not been disembarked. Such was the state of things up to the 22nd. Mr. Gladstone, however, contends that the Crimean army has not perished, nor is likely to perish. It still numbers an effective force of 30,000 men and by an arrangement with General Canrobert, troops under his command are to take part of the right attack, equivalent to a reinforcement of 5,000 men. Meanwhile our French allies suffer but little more than the ordinary hardships of campaigning, and are in so effective a condition, that their commander has sent orders to retain the reinforcements at Constantinople until further orders. The Turkish force at Eupatoria is being daily strengthened, but it appears that the head of this expedition, Omar Pasha, has resigned, in consequence of the intrigues of the worthless Pashas who surround him, and, as far as possible, thwart his actions.

Diplomacy is still active. There appears no reason to doubt that the Vienna Conference is to meet during the ensuing month to deliberate on the bases of negotiation; but, as the representatives of the Allied Powers, in an authentic version of the Four Points as interpreted by them, speak of the article for putting an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, as "being too directly dependent on the events of the war to enable the bases of them to be adjusted at present," we cannot see what good result is to come of the meeting. It only remains to be noticed, that Austria demands the co-operation of the States of the Confederation in carrying out her policy and the appointment of the Emperor as Commander-in-Chief of the Federal forces; while Prussia still loudly complains of its exclusion from the diplomatic conferences.

Had we time and space we might comment upon the financial statement of the new Minister of Finance in Spain, which includes the sale of ecclesiastical property, without waiting for the sanction of the Pope!

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OUR anticipation of last week is more than realised. To our fancy, Mr. Roebuck's notice of motion for inquiry had already rung the knell of the Aberdeen Administration. We felt certain from the temper of the House on the first night of the re-assembling of Parliament, that Ministers would be compelled to retreat before the rising storm. But we confess that the order of that retreat took us by surprise. We went down to the House on Thursday, vaguely conjecturing as we went that the grand debate would be forestalled by the retirement of the Cabinet—but we were startled as we proceeded along the Strand, at reading on a placard exhibited in front of some newspaper office the words, "Resignation of Lord John Russell." "So ho!" murmured we, "that's it, is it? what will become of the education of the people of England?" We hurried on, eager to receive authentic confirmation or denial of the news. It was early when we reached the Westminster Palace. But few members were stirring, and of these not one-half were acquainted with the news of the day. We took a hasty glance round the House, and having been called out for a few minutes by visitors, were surprised in a few minutes to find that an adjournment had been moved, and that explanations had been promised for the morrow.

On the morrow, accordingly, we repeated our punctuality, expecting to see signs of great excitement. But we were disappointed. In the House itself the muster was thin, but the conversation going on among the few members who occupied the benches on either side of the Chair, was animated. Shortly before the time of commencing public business—half-past four—a sort of derisive cheer burst forth, and directed attention to Lord John Russell making his way, not to his usual seat on the Treasury bench, but to the uppermost bench behind it, where he ensconced himself as one of a little band of Whig ex-placemen by whom the locality is ordinarily tenanted. Here Sir George Grey sat before he was called to the Coalition Cabinet. Here sit Mr. Vernon Smith, Lord Seymour, Sir Francis Baring, and other disconsolate or expectant right-honourables. And here it seemed to us fitting that Lord John should come to anchor, and show himself a Whig and nothing else, to the last.

It being Friday, the orders of the Day had precedence over Motions. It was agreed on all hands, however, that Mr. Roebuck's motion was to come first. One of the Ministers accordingly moved the postponement of the Orders, and on this question being put, Lord John Russell rose. He was sprucer than is his wont, for he is not commonly over-attentive to the adornment of his outer man. He seemed to have had time to brush himself up, perhaps considering that as he was descending to a lower sphere it behoved him to pay regard to trifles which, as leader of the House, he might safely neglect. Be this as it may, he was evidently in trim, and, to a hushed and eager House, he proceeded to give an explanation of his sudden abandonment of office. The confession he made was artfully put together—very skilfully adapted to the prejudices of the House. But when, after getting through his personal narrative, he launched out into eulogies on the virtues of the Whig party, there was a general titter on both sides. For the moment, his vindication of himself seemed to be successful, but he was followed by Lord Palmerston, who, in a tone half complimentary and half sarcastic, revealed what Lord John had left unsaid, and in a few neat sentences turned the feeling of the House against the man who was brave enough to remain in office when danger was not visible, and

whose conscience only smote him when inquiry was threatened. Lord Palmerston had his revenge upon his noble colleague for having so mercilessly exposed him some three years ago. He announced, moreover, that all the remaining Ministers were unanimous in their determination o meet the motion of Mr. Roebuck with a direct negative;—if they should succeed, modifications of the Ministry would take place—if he should carry his motion, they would resign, of course.

Then rose Mr. Roebuck. His first few sentences were clear, spirited, and ringing—but he had not proceeded many minutes before it became painfully apparent that his physical powers were unequal to the occasion. Members entreated him to be seated, but he declined the indulgence, and made a further attempt to proceed. In vain, however. The organ of his intellect refused to fulfil its functions at his command, and baffled by his malady, he was obliged to content himself with reading his motion. There was a silence that was embarrassing. No one rose to reply. The House waited, waited, waited. No member on his legs. Then was heard a faint murmur "Divide, divide," which after a little swelled into a more general call. Not till the Speaker seemed about to put the question did Mr. Sidney Herbert rise, and address himself to the vindication of the Government. He was by no means so successful as on former occasions—but his position had this difficulty about it, that he was obliged to refute a charge which had *not* been preferred. The gist of the defence was, that England has no army in the continental sense of the term, but merely a crowd of fighting men who can do little else but fight. Mr. Drummond came next, and delivered a speech against Ministers which we heard described as consisting, like most of Mr. Drummond's speeches, of three distinct sections—the first witty—the second prosy—the last misty and enthusiastic. Mr. W. S. Lindsay, in an easy, telling style, exposed the miserable mismanagement of our transport service. Mr. Layard spoke at considerable length, and spoke well, for he had been an eye-witness of many of the evils which he denounced. His delivery was much happier than usual, and on a question requiring minute acquaintance with details, he gets on much better than when he attempts to propound a policy or grapple with a principle. Sir George Grey was fluent and verbose—but as he emphasises every word, the general effect of his oratory is wearisome. He was smart on Lord John Russell's sudden flight—but he argued the general question as though it were mainly a question of party. He quoted the well-known passage from Sir W. Napier, descriptive of the qualities of the British soldier, and stumbled upon the "cold shade of the aristocracy," to his own exceeding discomfort, and to the amusement of the more advanced section of the Liberals of the House. Mr. Walpole and Mr. Vernon Smith, for the week, closed a very dull debate.

On Monday came the realities of war. Mr. Stafford, who has been out to the Crimea, and employed himself in acts of real self-denying benevolence for the comfort of the poor soldiers, modestly, and in excellent taste, narrated his experience, and made a profound impression on the House. Mr. Bernal Osborne boldly assailed our whole system of military administration, and warned the House that reform must commence at the Horse Guards. Of Mr. Gladstone's speech it is impossible to convey a full and appreciative notion to our readers. The whole of the former part of it was splendid, and won the enthusiastic admiration of his auditors in spite of themselves. But he failed n justifying the Ministry in their conduct of the war, and he said not one word in vindication of its policy. He annihilated Lord John without seeming even to attack him, and generously defended the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Sidney Herbert from the obloquy heaped upon them. Mr. Disraeli was more pertinent, more moderate, and more effective than he has showed himself for a long time past—and many of his hits were exceedingly clever. He succeeded, we think, in justifying the vote he was about to give. After an animated harangue from Lord Palmerston, and a word or two from Mr. Muntz, Mr. Duncombe, and Mr. Roebuck in reply, the House divided. The result took every one by surprise—305 for and 148 against the motion. An undue expression of astonishment might be heard to follow the announcement of the numbers—but it was received without any actual show of party feeling.

THE DECISIVE VOTE.

A MAJORITY of one hundred and fifty-seven votes against the Government in a House consisting of but four hundred and fifty-three members—an adverse majority of more than two to one on a question of confidence in the Administration—a vote unprecedented, perhaps, in the annals of Parliamentary warfare—what is its true meaning? What is the interpretation which the country should put upon it? What is the mind which it expresses?

The precise wording of Mr. Roebuck's motion we shall not repeat here. Technically speaking, it was a motion for inquiry into the "horrible and heart-rending" condition of the army before Sebastopol, and the causes which have led to it. So Mr. Roebuck himself appears to have meant it, and, no doubt, under his guidance, had his health permitted, the inquiry would have been as searching as a Select Committee, sitting at the New Palace, Westminster, to investigate evils occurring in the Crimea, 3,000 miles off, could have made it. But it was clear enough to common sense, either that the evidence must be brought over to the judges, or the judges must go in search of the evidence, and that in either case the inquiry must be too slow to save the remnant of a rapidly perishing army. Few members, therefore, voted, we suspect, in the hope of rescuing our troops from impending destruction by means of a Select Committee. The instrument of inquiry was obviously a most inefficient one for an immediate purpose, but then it was the only one within the legitimate control of the House of Commons. The vote really asserted *a case for* inquiry, rather than a general conviction that a Select Committee could conduct it to advantage.

The most hurried glance over the division-list will show that the decisive vote of Monday night was not a mere party *pronunciamento*. No doubt, there were several on both sides who were mainly impelled by party spirit—but we do not believe that the startling result can be thus explained. It is questionable whether Lord Derby aspires to official responsibility under present circumstances—it is certain that he must be a madman if he does. So far as he and Disraeli have criticised the conduct of the war, they have committed themselves to an anti-Austrian, as well as anti-Russian policy, and have laughed at any settlement of the contest on so narrow a basis as that comprised in the Four Points. But to be condemned to pursue that policy with the aid of a military administration which has fairly collapsed under a much less pressure than they would have brought to bear upon it, would be equivalent to their political destruction. The party, therefore, as a party, are not anxious to force so crushing a responsibility upon the ambition of their chiefs. They voted well together, it is true—but then there was nothing to divide them. They may have taken their cue from their leaders, but it was not merely in obedience to orders, but in hearty concurrence with the object of the motion.

A portion of the daily press, we see, represents the majority of "Ayes" in Mr. Roebuck's motion, as the judgment of the House in favour of Lord John Russell as against his late colleagues. The writers of this disgusting sycophancy appear to be utterly incompetent to appreciate the spirit of a British House of Commons. It has always fallen in with the temper of the Conservative party to flatter Lord John in contradistinction to the Peelites, whom they hate with deadly malignity—and it was a high treat to them to witness the sudden desertion of the Coalition Cabinet by its leader in the House. With every temptation to overlook the baseness of the means in the convenience of the issue, they could not refrain, nevertheless, in congratulating the country on the latter, from sarcastically alluding to the former. Why, we venture to say that the whole House, with the exception of some half-dozen of the noble lord's moon-stricken devotees, witnessed his abandonment of his post with deep and unmitigated disgust. They saw him scared at his responsibility only when certain of being called to account. With the cowardice of a Jerry Sneak in presence of the policeman, he turned Queen's evidence to save himself from punishment. *Punch* once caricatured him as the naughty boy who chalked "No Popery" on Cardinal Wiseman's door, and then ran away. The House of Commons saw that illustration virtually realised. The most intimate of his official friends were ashamed to follow him. And when Mr. Gladstone, after paying him a fulsome compliment, described what might have been the just but ignominious epitaph of the Administration if they had copied his example, the House rang with shouts of acclamation. No, no! Lord John's confession that he could not resist inquiry may have augmented the majority of Monday night—but if the House could have been polled on the question of Lord John's conduct, either as it regarded his colleagues or the country, not twenty votes would have been recorded in his favour.

Nor, strictly speaking, can the decision of the House be regarded as a special vote of censure on the Duke of Newcastle, and Mr. Sydney Herbert. The assiduity of these Ministers has entitled them to credit—and that *they* are rather victims than culprits in this matter is sufficiently attested by the fact, that almost everything needed for the comfort and equipment of our troops rots in very abundance on the shores of Balaklava. The fault against which the House intended to protest, is rather the fault of the entire Cabinet than of any particular members of it—a lenient connivance at the frustration of their own efforts, by the imbecility of the men entrusted with the execution of them—the weakness of character which allows itself to be beaten in arrangements involving myriads of lives, by the pig-headed obstructiveness of official routine. It was felt that a Government without unity of purpose, and, therefore, with a balanced will, inclining now to this side, and then to that, was no less, in an awful crisis like the present, than a national calamity—and hence the House, without troubling itself with what might chance to come after, and consulting its instincts rather than its logical powers, dashed the Administration to pieces. This is our interpretation of the vote on Monday night—and events, we anticipate, will show that it is not far from being the correct one.

Some have regarded the decision as essentially, or consequentially, a war decision. We do not so view it. Even should Lord Palmerston be called upon by Her Majesty to form an Administration, we shall not consider the occurrence as unfavourable to negotiations for peace. We have little faith in the administrative talent of the noble lord—we have still less, we regret to say, in his disinterested patriotism. But, at least, he has this advantage over Lord Aberdeen, that he can move towards peace without being run down as a traitor to his country. And, if summoned to the premiership, it is our conviction that his move will be in that direction. He is an old man. He cannot expect to see the present war to a conclusion, if the existing opening for negotiation be rendered unavailing. He is fonder, moreover, of diplomacy than of action. He is supposed, however erroneously, to sympathise with continental liberalism. And his name is a name of vague apprehension to European despots. Possibly, he may be the best man, the only man, to negotiate conditions of peace with Russia—and with that dexterity which is his chief characteristic, he may know how to turn his peculiar advantages to account. At any rate, we do not dread him, as once we should have done—for what is a War Ministry without an army, especially when in presence of a great military power? He who extricates our country, with the least possible dishonour, from this unfathomable mess, into which a Coalition Cabinet has allowed it to sink, will deserve well of the nation, whatever may be his motives.

RESPONSIBILITY NOT TO BE REPUDIATED.

THE week so eventful in the conviction and punishment of incompetence, has also afforded an instance of a bold yet cowardly attempt to escape conviction and punishment together, by the sudden repudiation of responsibility. We are anxious, in the interests of public morality, that this attempt should not be successful, especially as the means of escape are sought to be made also the means of an utterly unmerited elevation.

In plain words,—Lord John Russell, having acted with his colleagues in the Government of Lord Aberdeen, up to the moment of Mr. Roebuck's notice of a motion of no-confidence, seeks to evade his share of the foreseen censure, by abandoning office; and is suspected of having calculated on succeeding to the Premiership from which he thus helps to expel his friend and chief.

On his own showing, it was not because Lord Aberdeen refused to substitute Lord Palmerston for the Duke of Newcastle that Lord John resigned. In his ostentatiously minute explanation of Friday last, he appeared, it is true, to design to make that impression. He made no break in the detail of communications with Lord Aberdeen on the subject. He caused it to be inferred, that the continuance in office of the Duke was a circumstance of at least equal weight with the prospect of a Parliamentary encounter in deciding the resolution so hurriedly announced. But the reflective listener must have detected in the lapse of time from when the project was first mooted, either a change of opinion or a voluntary abeyance of self-will. And the statement made on Monday by Mr. Gladstone,—in the hearing of Lord John Russell,—puts this beyond doubt. From the commencement of the session, in the middle of last month, he had definitively abandoned his Palmerston proposition, and had taken up in its place with other schemes for the improved administration of the war. At the moment that he was penning his letter of resignation, the whole Cabinet supposed he was preparing to lead the House of Commons' defence of their policy. Either in panic or premeditated treachery, he cast away his shield on the very eve of battle.

This, it is said, is a "conventional" view of political obligations. There are few conventionalities that have not at bottom a moral reality. It *may* be the force of usage only that prompts the universal dislike of the culprit who impeaches his confederates; but we rather suspect that it is a sentiment instinctive and creditable to our nature. We are not disposed, therefore, to treat with indifference that insensibility to personal relations which Lord John has in this action betrayed. We

see in the mere act of deserting, at a critical moment, a body of gentlemen with whom he had been acting in at least apparent accord, only an hour before, the proof of a little mind,—of a mean nature,—of a soul without the generosity which strength and courage inspire,—of those low qualities which, when detected, mark a man as unworthy of trust, either as friend or leader. But the punishment of *this* offence may be safely left to those against whom it is committed. The unfaithful ally invariably finds in those whom he has deceived, sooner or later, the retribution of his unfaithfulness. In this case, it is not only the aged and unpopular who are wronged. Lord John left behind him in Lord Aberdeen's Cabinet at least one man from whose power he has as much to fear as from his magnanimity he has much to hope. Mr. Gladstone,—gifted, generous, admired, and young,—will life to avenge the desertion of his chief by snatching from the deserter his expected reward.

But far more gravely do we view Lord John's offence against the country. To have contented himself with feeble remonstrances and a rejected proposition, through the operation of a process which has ended in a calamity by himself described as "horrible and heartrending,"—to have quietly resumed his seat at the council board after the alarming disclosures made in the December session, and the solemn promises which then averted destruction,—to have lived through another month of anxiety to the country and mortal suffering to its army, and have made no effort to re-assure the one and save the other,—to have self-confessed the inexplicability of the disasters that were fast accumulating to a catastrophe, yet to have continued inactive,—to have foreseen that Parliament would demand inquiry, and to have acquiesced in the Cabinet intention to resist it,—to have done all this, was thoroughly to identify himself with the Government which he only abandoned when its overthrow was certain. Whatever of blame attaches to its inaptitude, attaches to him. Whatever of guilt there may be in its incompetence, that guilt he shares. Whatever of ignorance is betrayed by its failures, in that ignorance he must have participated. Why, then, did he not remain to defend what he must have felt to be either capable of defence or incapable of excuse? Was it not that he thought to appear devotedly patriotic, when he was only dastardly selfish? Was it not that he reckoned, by the incrimination of his colleagues in common with himself, to precipitate their condemnation, and exempt himself from the censure disqualifying them for return to office? What kinder solution of his motives can be extracted from even the most charitable analysis of his humiliating "explanation?" He may defy the exaggerated invective couched by Mr. Disraeli in the language of the eighteenth century—"a profligate intrigue;"—but he will not escape the indignant sarcasm of Mr. Gladstone—"sought safety in flight by the abandonment of duty."

The same tactique is attempted, less adroitly, by a less conspicuous man. Mr. Bernal Osborne, in his speech on Monday night, endeavoured to expiate the offence of his hitherto unmitigated officialism, by a violent attack on the Ministerial system. Assuming an air of temerity which was ludicrously ill-timed, he denounced with the coarseness of a demagogue institutions of which he has been the parasite. Affecting to apprehend the displeasure of a Minister already as good as deposed, he dared that displeasure in the name of patriotism. In the moment of losing office, he remembers that he has a constituency,—and that to them he owes "a superior duty." For three years past, the constituency,—even that of Middlesex,—has been in his pocket; the qualification to an under-secretaryship. For three years he has submitted to a degrading silence, and not unfrequently given a vote inimical to the notorious wishes of this great electoral body. It is only as the sub-secretary's stool breaks down under him, that the official remembers that he is a representative, and the representative relapses into the Radical. In the case of a subordinate, there is not that onus of responsibility which clings to a Minister-in-chief,—and the repudiation is therefore not so audacious. But the policy is the same in both cases—and in both, it should be denounced and defeated. Whoever has been a party to that enormous abuse of public confidence which has hocussed a splendid army out of existence, must be held to the bar of Parliamentary investigation, and amerced in the penalties of the offence which may be established, be it the offence of active or of acquiescent incompetence, concealment, and indifference.

A COLLISION OF DEPARTMENTS.

THE cause of the anarchy which obtains in the Crimea,—the division and conflict of authority which has the reresulted in every absurdity and disaster, a veryrevel of Unreason and Misrule, with Ruin at their heels,—is so well illustrated by an incident which occurred the other day in London streets, that we think it worth while to describe it in the columns already nearly filled with affairs of world-wide interest.

The prisoner Baranelli, accused of the Foley-place murder, has been, during the hospital treatment of his self-inflicted wound, in the custody of the police, who removed him thither immediately on his apprehension. The coroner's inquest was held at the same place, the police bringing their prisoner from his bed to the inquest-room. The jury having returned a verdict of wilful murder, the coroner, Mr. Wakley, made out a warrant for Baranelli's removal to Newgate. The police inspector objected that he must first be taken before a magistrate. The coroner—who is accustomed to these conflicts with a rival authority—replied by putting the warrant into the hands of two parish constables, and binding them over, in penalties of £40 each, to deliver the prisoner only to the Governor of her Majesty's gaol at Newgate. A cab was sent for, Baranelli led down stairs by the constables, and placed between them in the cab. As it was about to drive off, the inspector mounted the driving-seat and seized the reins. The coroner descended to the yard, appeared upon the scene, and threatened the intruder with indefinite penalties for obstructing the execution of the law,—to which Mr. Inspector only deigned to reply, that he was acting under orders, which it was "as much as his place" was worth to disobey. He was charged in the Queen's name to desist,—but he knew no higher name than that of Commissioner Mayne. The foreman of the jury—a valorous parochial tribune—took the inspector by the collar, as a lawless disturber; and the inspector ordered his men to surround the cab, and seize the horse's head,—which they instantly did. A crowd collected,—and was appealed to by the coroner in support of his ancient office—but a promiscuous assembly of Englishmen knows no more ancient institution than the truncheon. The police led off the cab to the nearest station-house—Mr. Wakley adjuring the embarrassed constables, as they were drawn away, not to be separated from the apathetic Baranelli but by overwhelming force, under forfeiture of their bonds. The spirited jury availed themselves of the contiguity of a cab-rank to follow the vehicle thus suddenly ennobled to the rank of a war chariot, and a wondering mob accompanied the procession to the inevitable station-house. There, prisoners, constables, and jury were detained while Mr. Inspector, courteous throughout as stern, sought further instructions from Scotland-yard. That parvenu tribunal recoiled at the last moment from the conflict its faithful subordinate had provoked He was instructed that he must not obstruct the execution of so valid a document as a coroner's warrant—and he communicated this instruction to his blue-coated myrmidons in the phrase they could best understand, "All right!" The imprisoned constables were released—the jury received an apology—and the Saxon office so worthily held by Mr. Wakley, triumphed over the upstart arrogance of an imported bureau.

Now that we have told it, the story seems to have been worth the telling for its own sake—as showing how ill-defined are the limits of a very useful institution, and how easily they might be pushed to a point where the rights of the subject disappear, and a primary duty of citizenship is absorbed into a function of Government. But its present utility is, we repeat, the vivid illustration it gives of the sort of thing that has led on to the alternate confusion and suspense of administrative action with regard to the Crimean expedition. Ten or a dozen sets of men, dividing among them the absolute possession of functions which should be entrusted only to one man, find themselves perpetually obstructing one another. It is not so much, probably, a conflict of rights as of duties—else might the matter long ago have been settled. Being a question of work to be done, the obligation is shifted from one to the other—being a question of patronage to be bestowed, or of dignity to be asserted, it is moved along the groove of established usage. Had any of the hundreds of well-paid officials thus vested with antagonistic attributes, but the spirit of Mr. Coroner Wakley or of Mr. Inspector Dargan, their relative positions might have been decided in half-an-hour. An accidental collision—a well-conducted struggle—an appeal to head-quarters, and the thing would be done. But as no one felt the honour of his office at stake, and no one felt it "as much as his place was worth," all fell into indolence, indifference, and recklessness together. Extravagant pay and habitual irresponsibility bred the worst fruits of a bad system. An army of Englishmen was not deemed worthy of such a struggle between the War Office and the Horse Guards, as is waged for the body of Baranelli between the parish constable and the policeman.

THE GREAT DIVISION.

To an observer from the gallery of the scene on the floor of the House of Commons, about half-past one on Tuesday morning, it seemed as though the whole House were moving with the "Ayes to the right." As Ministers slowly and sadly trooped from the Treasury bench to the opposite lobby, they encountered a rush of members in the other direction but too ominous of the overwhelming antagonism they had excited. As the House refilled, it was curious to observe the combinations that issued from the same doorway. Disraeli and Duncombe, Spooner and Shelley, Willoughby and Walmsley, were jostling each other in unwonted companionship. Who is in the minority? was now the inquiry; and it was not till the publication of the division lists that it could be answered. It was then seen that, strange as were the association of names in the great majority, still stranger were some of the omissions.

Of the 654 who constitute the theoretical House,—a number quite incapable of accommodation within its walls,—six must be deducted for the tellers, the Speaker, and the vacant seat (Radnorshire). There were 58 pairs—which deduct so many more from the voting power of the House. The total of votes was 453. There are left 141 to be accounted for as absentees. Of these, 84 were Liberals and 57 Conservatives.

In the list of the majority we find no name that surprises us till we come to that of "Granby, Marquis of," whose speech in the debate we distinctly remember to have been against the motion. But, then, as a witty writer in a weekly contemporary remarked, while he was speaking, his leaders were settling how he should vote!

Among the Noes, we find Sir T. Baring, the Conservative, — Brotherton, the once Radical, — Bouverie, the Hon. E. P. F. Crossley, of Halifax; and Kershaw, of Stockport—Lord R. Grosvenor, of Middlesex; and Sir Benjamin Hall, of Marylebone — Milligan, of Bradford—the O'Connell's, Daniel and John—both the Peels, and one Phillimore (R.J.)—who, with his brother, got leave of absence on the 24th, on account of a domestic affliction—and lastly, Charles Villiers.

But it is among the "members who did not vote" that we find most cause for comment. That timid Ministerialists and reluctant Disraelites should abstain on such an occasion, does not excite our special wonder. But the representatives of great or decided constituencies can seldom keep silence without shame. Yet here are Blackett (Newcastle), John Bright, Bignold (Norwich), Butler and Clay (Tower Hamlets), Richard Cobden, Cowan (Edinburgh), W. J. Fox (Oldham), T. M. Gibson, Sir G. Goodman (Leeds), A. Hastie (Glasgow), Hindley (Ashton-under-Lyne), Joseph Hume, and T. B. Macaulay. The motives of some of these gentlemen may be easily understood,—and respected; but there are others in the list whose absence was inexplicable.

The sanctum in which James Montgomery the poet, painted exquisite scenery, was not very suggestive—"It was (says one of his biographers) a small back room of a large building in the centre of the town, and looking immediately upon one of the meanest masses of dead brick walls in Sheffield: from *its* windows he could see none of the fine scenery in the neighbourhood, that might serve even to *remind* him in summer of pastoral Alpine landscapes, or in winter of falling avalanches,—of the cottages, the lakes, or the waterfalls of Switzerland at any season."

Madame Dudevant (Georges Sand), in her "History of my Life," publishing in *La Presse*, unlike a true woman disparages her own personal appearance. "I had," she confesses, "only one moment of freshness—beauty never. My features, nevertheless, were well-formed, but I never studied to give them the least expression. The habit which I contracted almost in my cradle of indulging in reveries of which I can give no account to myself, gave me early an air of stupidity. I speak out the word, because during all my life—when I was an infant, in my convent, and in my own intimate family—I have been told that it is so; and it must needs be true."

Miss Nightingale was the object for the expression of genuine public opinion on Tuesday evening at Exeter Hall. The Rev. Hampden Gurney, in the course of a very eloquent lecture, in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association, on "God's Heroes and the World's Heroes," after commenting upon the deeds of the warriors of by-gone times and the warriors of the present day, proceeded to enlighten his audience respecting such characters as Martin Luther, Howard, John Bunyan, Mrs. Fry, and other charitable notables, and then referred to what he considered the greatest modern instance of female heroism, and dwelt in the most glowing terms upon the self-sacrifice which Miss Nightingale has so recently made in what he considered to be a most righteous and holy cause. The rev. lecturer severely animadverted upon the unkind and un-Christian statements which had gone forth to the world with respect to the religious opinions of that lady; but he felt sure himself, and he was certain that his audience would agree with him when he stated that he considered Miss Nightingale one of the greatest heroines this world ever produced. This announcement of Miss Nightingale's name was received with cheers; cheers which evidently came from the heart, and which were oft repeated from the immense numbers tha filled the vast hall. The lecturer himself is an eminent clergyman of the Established Church, and was surrounded on the platform on this occasion by ministers and lay members of almost every religious denomination.

THE WAR.

LATEST FROM THE CRIMEA.

Prince Menschikoff reports on the 17th inst. that the besiegers made no progress. He says that in a sortie on the 15th, the Russians made fourteen English and nine French prisoners.

According to Russian reports of the 13th, from Sebastopol, many men of the allied armies desert to them.

The *Oesterreichische Correspondenz* publishes advices from Odessa of the 25th, and from the Crimea of the 19th of January. There had been a very heavy fall of snow in the Crimea. Deserters, probably Tartars, were reported to arrive daily at the Russian camp. The fortress kept up a continual fire upon works of the allies, particularly at night.

A despatch, dated January 19, has arrived from the Crimea. The firing had nearly ceased on both sides, and all were seeking shelter from the snow. The situation of the besiegers was excellent. The horses only were suffering. Sleighs were being employed, and greatly facilitated the transport of provisions and ammunition.

CRIMEA, Jan. 22.—The weather is very fine and temperate. Our army is still sickly. Abundant supplies of all kinds are arriving. There is no progress to report in the siege. The French have taken most of our right attack. Shot, shell, and warm clothing go to the front daily, but no huts. The Emu has arrived with the 14th Regiment, but neither that nor the 39th have yet landed. The Gorgon and Highflyer have arrived at Balaklava. The Russians are said to be in want of ammunition. They show, however, no signs of want, but fire briskly. Sebastopol received supplies on Wednesday, the 17th of January. A council of Generals had been held at Lord Raglan's. It was thought that the assault would be made as soon as the weather permitted it.

The *Oesterreichische Correspondenz* states that, according to authentic advices from the Crimea, the Russian army has suffered exceedingly from the weather.

General Liprandi has again pushed forward his outposts to the Chernaya.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM THE CRIMEA.

The following despatches from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle, Minister-of-War, have been published in the London *Gazette*:—

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 6.

My Lord Duke,—The weather has been so bad since I wrote to your Grace on the 2nd instant, that I have not yet been able to disembark the Thirty-ninth, with a view of encamping the regiment; and it still remains on board the Golden Fleece, in the harbour.

The ground is thickly covered with snow though not very deep.

All my endeavours are directed to the speedy disembarkation and getting up of the huts, which have now arrived in considerable numbers, and the establishment of the depôt of provisions, which I alluded to in my last despatch, near head-quarters, which I am now enabled to do, with the assistance of the Eighteenth and Thirty-ninth Regiments, the first encamped near Balaklava, the last still sleeping on board the Golden Fleece.

There has been no movement on the part of the enemy.

I enclose a return of the casualties that have occurred up to the 4th instant.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

Return of Casualties from 29th to 30th December.—1st Royal Regiment of Foot—2 rank and file wounded. 19th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 38th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 47th Regiment—2 rank and file wounded. Total—6 rank and file wounded.

Return of Casualties from 31st December to 4th January.—1st Regiment of Foot—1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded. 9th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 21st Regiment—1 rank and file killed. 41st Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 44th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 47th Regiment—2 rank and file wounded. 49th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 57th Regiment—1 sergeant, 2 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded; 1 rank and file missing. 62d Regiment—2 rank and file wounded. 68th Regiment—1 rank and file killed. 95th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade—6 rank and file wounded. Total—1 sergeant, 5 rank and file, killed; 18 rank and file wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

Return of Casualties from 5th to 7th January.—1st Regiment of Foot—1 sergeant, 2 rank and file wounded. 21st Regiment—2 rank and file wounded. 38th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 47th Regiment—2 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded. 55th Regiment—1 rank and file killed. 89th Regiment—1 rank and file wounded. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade—2 rank and file killed. Total—5 rank and file killed; 1 sergeant, 7 rank and file wounded.

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 13.

MY LORD DUKE,—The weather still continues very severe, and to-day it blows a gale of wind, with drifting snow.

Although I have not received the official report from the officer commanding the 4th Division, the officer of the Quartermaster-General's department, whose duty it is to visit the advanced posts at daylight, has brought in an account of a sortie made by the Russians in the course of last night upon our right and left attack, the enemy advancing, under protection of a heavy cannonade, along the Woronzow road and the ravine on the extreme left.

The enemy succeeded in driving in the troops in the advanced trench, which was not re-occupied until the reserves were brought forward from the second parallel.

A party in pits on the right of the advanced trench, consisting of 1 sergeant and 13 rank and file, are missing, and 1 officer and 36 privates are stated to be wounded.

The time for the despatch of the mail being at hand, I am very sorry that I shall not be able to send your Grace to-day a more accurate statement of this affair.

I inclose a return of casualties between the 8th and 11th.

Great progress is making in disembarking and issuing to the troops vast quantities of warm clothing of all descriptions, and I believe I may assert that every man in this army has received a second blanket, a jersey frock, flannel drawers, and socks, and some kind of winter coat, in addition to the ordinary great coat.

The provision of fuel is still a great difficulty.

Every effort is making, and with tolerable success, in landing and putting up the huts; their great weight (2¼ tons each) is a serious obstacle to their conveyance to the camp, with our limited transport. Each hut requires three stripped artillery waggons, with from 8 to 10 horses each, or 180 men.

Much sickness continues to prevail,

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

The casualties among the non-commissioned officers and privates from the 8th to the 11th January, 1855, both days inclusive, are 3 sergeants, 7 rank and file, killed; 12 rank and file wounded.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CAMP.

HEALTH OF THE ARMY.

The cold weather has been attended by a decrease of one class of diseases and by an increase of those affecting the respiratory organs. Severe cases of frost-bite have occurred among the men. Some have died in consequence, others will probably lose their limbs or extremities. Officers have also succumbed to the cold, and to over work, on fatigue parties. Pleurisy, severe cold, rheumatism, bronchitis, and pneumonia have appeared among us, and, though diarrhœa and dysentery are not so prevalent, cases of scorbutic dysentery have rather been augmented in number. The 63rd Regiment had only seven men fit for duty yesterday. The 46th had only thirty men fit for duty at the same date. A strong company of the 90th has been reduced by the last week's severity to fourteen file in a few days, and that regiment, though considered very healthy, lost fifty men by death in a fortnight. The Scots Fusileer Guards, who have had out from beginning to end 1,562 men, now muster, including servants and corporals, 210 men on parade. Many other regiments have suffered in like proportion. —*Times Correspondent*, Jan. 8th.

BALAKLAVA, THE HUTS, AND THE WARM CLOTHING.

The arrangements in Balaklava are much better now than they were when I wrote about them some time ago. But let no one at home dream that our troops are in huts, or that they are well clad. It will be weeks ere the huts can be up at the camp, and I believe Lord Raglan's present intention is that all the available transport of the army shall be used for the carriage of shot and shell and provisions. Some few huts have been pitched close to the town for the artillery, and some few suits of warm clothing have been distributed. But hundreds of men have still to go into the trenches at night with no covering but their great coats and no protection for their feet but their regimental shoes. The trenches are two and three feet deep with mud, snow, and half-frozen slush. Many men when they take off their shoes are unable to get their swollen feet into them again, and they have been seen bare-footed hopping along about the camp, with the thermometer at 20 deg. and the snow half-a-foot deep on the ground. Our fine patent stoves are wretched affairs. They are made of thin sheet iron, which cannot stand our fuel—charcoal. Besides, with charcoal they are mere poison manufactories, and they cannot be left alight in the tents at night. They answer well for drying the men's clothes at day. There are not many of them distributed as yet, however, so that, such as they are, the troops have not the advantage. On this, the 8th day of January, some of the Guards, of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Household Brigade, are walking about in the snow *without soles to their shoes*. The warm clothing is going up to the front in small detachments. —*Ibid.*

I see by the late journals that the people of England still suppose that our men abound in warm clothing. Nothing can be further from the truth. They are wretchedly clad, and almost freezing. Wounded men have been brought into the hospital-tents with their trousers so frozen that no scissors would cut them, and the legs of the garments have been obliged to be cut with knives, and so torn of. The poor fellows have nothing under their trousers, and many of them have no trousers at all, but merely wear their drawers, with bread bags tied round their legs. Most of the men are suffering from swelled legs and feet, and scorbutic sores on all parts of their body.—*Morning Herald Correspondent*, Jan. 12.

STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.

Both the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Sidney Herbert informed the nation that the number of troops sent out between March and December last amounted to 53,000. 4,000 of these troops (I quote the same high authority) died in and after battles. Assuming 10,000 out of 53,000 to be a moderate amount of mortality in about ten months, the army now in the Crimea should number 39,000 men. But I believe I am correct in stating, that not more than 29,000 men and officers of all arms are to be found in the entrenched camp. The missing 10,000 are either in Scutari or in their graves. And this enormous loss of 20,000 out of 53,000 seems the more unaccountable, since "no army was better fed than this army," and especially as warm clothes and good houses were, by a provident and prescient Ministry, provided in the exact nick of time they were most wanted!—*Daily News.*

RUMOURED ACTIVE OPERATIONS.

There are rumours of a combined attack on the 17th inst. Omar Pasha has been here, and has held a council of war with the commanders-in-chief. It is said that he is to attack Simpheropol with 20,000 men on the day we attack Sebastopol, so as to distract the attention and divide the forces of the enemy. The French are to co-operate with Omar Pasha, and have placed under orders 6,000 men, to proceed from Eupatoria with the Turkish troops. Our movements at Eupatoria are most closely watched by the Russians. Night and day they have a double line of videttes all along the road between Eupatoria and Simpheropol, so as to communicate intelligence as speedily as possible to the authorities. It is conjectured that Liprandi's corps has altered its front, and that, in conjunction with the recent reinforcements, it has taken up a position from the hills over the Belbek towards Simpheropol so at to keep open the communication between Sebastopol and the interior.—*Letter*, Jan. 9.

When the English commence they will do so with 35 mortars and 60 heavy guns, all of which, with the exception of two or three of the latter, are already in position, and only waiting for sufficient stores of ammunition to open fire. This, it is said, we are likely to do about the 17th inst., but I cannot help fearing that it will yet be another month before anything of importance is attempted. . . . A well sustained bombardment of 48 or 60 hours would most probably destroy the earthworks and defences of the south side, and not leave a whole building in the town; but it is on the north side that the real struggle will be, and our engineers, I believe, anticipate a protracted resistance from these defences. Certainly they are ten times as strong and numerous as those on the south. I believe the whole place must be completely invested before we shall be able to effect anything of importance against these works.—*Morning Herald Correspondent.* [It will be observed that our intelligence from the Crimea came down to the 22nd., five days beyond the date of the expected attack.

DEATHS FROM CHARCOAL STOVES.

Fires have been very low, for the troops want fuel. Rations of charcoal were indeed in store at Balaklava, but they could not be made available for the troops in front, because we wanted the transport to bring them up. So the charcoal was confined to the troops in depot at Balaklava, the Highland Brigade at Kadikoi, and, in camp, to the Artillery, who, having horses, were enabled to fetch up their rations of fuel. The cold of the 5th set all the charcoal burners a-glowing, and some deaths are recorded from the deadly exhalations of a species of fuel wholly unknown to a great many of our men and even officers. Brevet-Major Swinton, of the Royal Artillery, was found dead in his tent; ten privates of the Highland Brigade were all but suffocated. An officer of the 97th was killed. Captain Stephenson, and a party of officers of the gallant 17th Lancers, who sat too long over a charcoal fire, suffered a good deal, and, thus warned, escaped a more serious accident.

THE WEATHER.

After the snow, on the 5th, came the frost—not that tranquil, freezing cold which I have known in northern climates, and of which, without any great inconvenience, I have stood as many as 28 degrees Reaumur, but the cold of a bleak, pitiless wind, which came howling in from the steppes of the north, and which, after its guise, set all the camp howling and gnashing their teeth. And this the more, since the majority of the troops are still without additional clothing, with the exception, perhaps, of a new blanket in the place of the old and rotten.

The scenery of our campaign ground and of the adjacent country has now assumed a true wintry aspect. The lofty abrupt peaks and sharp ridges of the mountains which close up the valley of Balaklava are covered with snow, which gives them an appearance of great height and ruggedness, and the valley and plateau are of a blanched white, seamed and marked by lines of men and horses carrying up provisions.

THE VIA MEDIA.

On the 27th December the frost moderated down into mild weather. It was something like a fine English day in the latter half of March. Of course the mildness of the weather, though cheering, deepened the slush of the roads, and that slush was still further worked up by nearly a thousand French and Turkish soldiers marching down to Balaklava empty handed, and marching up again to the front loaded with shot and shells, which they carried, the shot slung upon a long pole which rested on the shoulders of two men; the shells, empty, of course, stuck upon sticks and carried on the shoulder. In this primitive manner does the ammunition travel up to camp, since ignorance and improvidence have mismanaged matters to that extent, that the army has no roads, no means of transport, and no means that any one can see of procuring either.

The number of dead horses on the roadside, augmented by every day's work, is very considerable. Each ditch or deep furrow across the path is marked by a heap of decaying horseflesh.

PRIVATE LETTERS.

A crisis is coming. Unless the aid come quickly, which all experience of the wisdom and energy of our military rulers forbids up to expect, a second Moscow disaster is to be exhibited to the world. But this time British troops will make the snow their winding-sheet: the French will escape; and honestly, for their prudent care and energy, do they deserve the immunity. . . . . While you are struggling to collect tens and twenties of young recruits, fifties and hundreds of your old soldiers are dying here. They are dying from starvation. I say it who know it—who know what amount of warmth and what amount of food are absolutely necessary to preserve strength and life in men exposed to the fatigues and hardships your soldiers before Sebastopol are exposed to—that they have been left to die from starvation. For the last six weeks the rations issued have not been of a kind nor of a quantity to support strength or health. The clothing has not been sufficient to maintain the necessary vigour of the circulation. The means of cooking have not been such as to enable even the

amount of food issued to be turned to a proper account: much of its nutritious qualities has been wasted. Your medical officers have pointed out the evils going on; they have written official remonstrances through the head of their own department, through general officers; but their communications have not been honoured even with a reply. And the men are now so sickly from dysentery and diarrhœa, from emaciation and debility, from diseases marking the advent of scurvy and dropsy, not to mention affections of the feet and fingers, that we cannot send them away from camp fast enough.—*Light Division Officer*, Jan. 5.

Last night the thermometer was 22 deg. in a tent in which two men were sleeping. . . . . Luckily men have been served out with drawers, socks, great coats, and some with shoes. . . . . Our sentries are served out with gregis and capotes, most useful coats, as they are very warm. We are now only twelve hours on picket, twenty-four having been found too severe. . . . . Our rations are certainly excellent. The cavalry lode their chargers with food and bring it up to our commissariat stores."—*From an Officer of the Forty-ninth*, Jan. 5.

STATE OF THE FRENCH CAMP.

The other day I was passing through the camp of the 50th Regiment of the line (French), and urging my poor steed through heaps of mud, when an officer came out of his tent and, with the unfailing kindness and courtesy of our allies, invited me to dismount and take a glass of the brandy which had been sent out by the Emperor as a Christmas gift. Although he was living in a tent, the canvas was only a roof for a capacious and warm pit; in which there was a bright wood fire sparkling cheerily in a grate of stones. We "trinqued" together and fraternized as our allies will always do when our officers give them a chance. My host, who had passed through his grades in Africa, showed me with pride the case of sound Bordeaux, the box of brandy, and the pile of good tobacco sent to him by Napoleon III.—"*le premier ami du soldat.*" A similar present had been sent to every officer of the French army, and a certain quantity of wine and brandy and tobacco had been sent to each company of every regiment in the Crimea. That very same day I heard dolorous complaints that the presents sent by the Queen and Prince Albert to our army had miscarried, and that the Guards and Rifles had alone received the Royal bounty in the very acceptable shape of a ton of Cavendish. Several presents of the same most grateful and useful luxury had been sent to different regiments by persons who took an interest in them from former or present connexion. It must not be inferred that the French are all healthy while we are all sickly. They have dysentery, fever, diarrhœa, and scurvy, as well as pulmonary complaints, but not to the same extent as ourselves, or to anything like it in proportion to their numbers.—*Times Correspondent.*

We are all in full winter now. For the last few days the ground has been covered with snow. We bear up against this new enemy as hardily as possible, thanks to our overall boots and sheepskin coats; but our poor animals suffer dreadfully. The horses and mules are dying off, and we have lost a great number within the last few days. They are enjoying themselves at head-quarters. Only fancy, an English nobleman has had the gracious idea of sending our Commander-in-Chief an immense quantity of provisions, excellent wines, and exquisite preserves: nothing was forgotten. This delicate attention cannot be sufficiently admired, and I can assure you that General Canrobert was much affected by it. Is not this the most extraordinary proof of the esteem and confidence that are felt in England for the military talents of the Commander-in-Chief of the French army?—*Correspondent of the Presse d'Orient*, Jan. 5.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

A slander as untrue in itself as its publication is incomprehensible has found its way here in some copies of one of your contemporaries. But for the indignation which has been occasioned by this foul calumny among both the officers and men, I should not deem it worthy contradiction. At the request of many officers, however, I am induced to allude to it, only for the purpose of assuring you, which I do of my own personal knowledge, that so far from Lord Raglan not being visible to the army under his command, there are very few days indeed—be the weather ever so inclement—on which his lordship does not ride round the camp, and satisfy himself of its condition by close personal examination. I am told that the correspondent of the journal in which these unfounded statements have appeared is about to take up his residence at head-quarters. If this be the case, it is to be hoped that the movements of the Commander-in-Chief will in future be reported with greater accuracy and less bad feeling. This gentleman, I happen to know, is allowed full rations as an officer on the staff.—*Morning Post Correspondent*, Jan. 9.

Lord Raglan visited the town yesterday, for the first time since October, and he has paid two or three visits to the front, particularly to the camp of the Fourth Division, lately.—*Times Correspondent*, Jan. 9.

Lord Raglan visited Balaklava on Monday afternoon. This is the first time his lordship has visited the place since the 2nd of October last, and I am sure I am speaking within the mark when I say that it is the first time (except at the battle of Inkermann) that he has been seen out at all for the last two months.—*Morning Herald*, Jan. 12.

DANGERS FROM EXPLOSION AT BALAKLAVA.

On the day of Lord Raglan's memorable visit a fire was discovered in the fore-hold of the Queen of the South, a steamer laden with ordnance stores, *and having 700 tons of gun-cartridges on board.* The fire, which was very trifling, and arose from the neglect of some of the crew, was soon put out, though when it was discovered, it was within eight feet of the powder magazine, which in the course of five or six minutes it would have reached. In the harbour of Balaklava, at this present moment, there are five or six ships laden like the Queen of the South only with shot and shell. At the west end of the harbour—almost touching the shipping—is the ordnance wharf, with some three or four hundred tons of gun-cartridges and live shell stacked up round it, while at the west end is an enormous pile of ammunition of all kinds. At the very least, in this little harbour, there cannot be less than 3,000 or 4,000 tons of gun-cartridges, Minié, ammunition, and live shell. During the past week there have been three inquiries held on board transports (two of which were laden with powder), as to the imminent risk and danger to which all in Balaklava were exposed by drunkenness being allowed, together with the most reckless want of caution with regard to lights and fires on board such vessels.—*Morning Herald.*

THE FRENCH MORTARS.

Our allies have long since been quite ready to open on the town with 50, 10, and 13-inch mortars, and have only been waiting until all the English mortars were in position and sufficiently supplied with ammunition to support their fire. Pending this happy consummation, and to divert the enemy in the meanwhile, our allies three days since commenced firing from a distant battery with ten 13-inch mortars upon the town and strongest of the Russian works. Each of these mortars fires 50 rounds a-day, and any one who has ever seen the effect produced by the bursting of a "Whistling Dick," of 13 inches, will know at once that 500 per diem cannot fall into the enemy's lines without doing fearful mischief to all around. All their missiles are certain at 4,000 yards, and for destructive purposes can be used at 5,000; consequently, even the defences on the north side of the harbour come under fire. Where they have been thrown in the town, the stately and strong-built houses on which they fall are mere ruins; 240 lb. weight of iron falling upon the roof of a house, from the height of a mile, penetrates to the very foundation, when the explosion of a well-confined bursting charge of 20 lb. of powder settles everything about the structure, from foundation to roof, for ever. Not many shells have yet been thrown among the houses—perhaps not more than twenty—yet when they have fallen, buildings which throughout the siege have never shown a mark, are now mere piles of rubbish. The French, for the present, are principally directing their efforts to injuring the Garden battery and Redan; and 495 out of the 500 shells fired each day fall in the centre of these ill-starred defences. Already no less than eleven guns have been silenced in these works, and though generally the cannon is replaced in the course of the night, it still shows the bombs are telling severely.—*Correspondent of the Morning Herald.*

LORD RAGLAN'S WANT OF FORETHOUGHT.

It is said, and the statement may be relied on, that before the winter set in Commissary-General Filder anxiously pressed for the formation of a grand depôt for stores at head-quarters, about midway between Balaklava and the general mass of troops. To this Lord Raglan, for some unknown reason, positively refused to consent. The winter came, and, as Mr. Filder foresaw, the tracks between Balaklava became impassable, only a small supply of provisions could be got up, and the soldiers and regimental officers, *not the Generals*, were the sufferers. When the frost came on Lord Raglan, taught by necessity the value of Mr. Filder's suggestion, consented to the establishment of a depôt at head-quarters, which was always to contain one week's provision for the whole force. General Filder was content with this concession, though he much wished for a month's stores instead of a week's. About two days' supply was got up while the frost lasted—then came the thaw and mud, and roads were worse than ever, and none could travel alone, much less with 36lb. on his back. So the formation of the store was not resumed until yesterday, when there had been a smart frost during the night, and the men were again able to move about, but the roads were still so much cut up and uneven, that though 500 extra men were employed, less than usual was transported.—*Morning Herald Correspondent, Jan.* 12.

ANECDOTES AND GOSSIP.

All the railroad plant has arrived. We hope soon to have the road established, which will relieve and spare both man and horse.

A few nights since about forty men were obliged to leave the trenches from illness, or rather from the effects of the cold.

The cavalry horses have suffered severely. At the present rate of mortality, the whole division, which musters about 500 horses, will be extinct in 30 days.

Our mortality is still great; on an average we still lose about a regiment a week.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

The Royal Naval Brigade, who have been doing duty in the trenches, are about being reduced in numbers, for the present at least. The men belonging to the Trafalgar, Britannia, Vengeance, and Arethusa, are to be embarked on the 12th instant.

Unfortunately all relating to the transports at Constantinople seems to go anyhow; for steam-ships, which are being paid at the rate of £200 per day by the country, are detained 16 and 18 days taking in 500 tons of coal.

There is now on duty in Balaklava a party of orderlies, whose duty it is to go about and bury all offal and dead animals every day. On an average they have to inter the bodies of 12 horses each 24 hours, all of which have died within the town.

All the shopkeepers in Balaklava have got notice to quit, as the houses are required for the use of the navvies. Those bloodsuckers will soon get up wooden huts. They are making a good thing of it, preying upon our vitals and wants.

Poor Bono Johnny is not well treated by our men, and that even some officers disgrace themselves by striking the miserable sickly creatures in the street. A strict order has now been issued that no Turkish soldier shall be struck or insulted on any pretext, and the offenders will be flogged if they are detected.

The day before yesterday, as one of our officers was passing by a French camp, he was hailed by a captain into whose tent the body of an English officer had just been carried. It was frozen and cold. The cap had been taken away, and the boots and coat, by some of the scoundrels who form part of every army.

"I have not slept one night in bed," says a soldier writing from the Crimea, "but mostly on the ground, or on the deck of a ship; still I am as well as ever—I owe it to not drinking. Those who drink most are most subject to illness, and most of the men who died were hard drinkers. Teetotalism is the best plan here."

The Turks who are at present in the Crimea have recently drawn up a memorial to General Canrobert and to the Porte. They say that, on occasion not having offered to take their revenge for the affair of Balaklava, they earnestly pray that they may be allowed the honour of being comprised in the division which is first to mount to the assault.

The duties in the trenches are frightfully severe just now. There are great numbers of men laid up with frostbite. An officer belonging to the 9th Regiment died on the road to Balaklava the other day. He is supposed to have sat down, fatigued with carrying a few things, when he probably went asleep and was frozen to death.

Report continues to say that there was a row in Sebastopol lately—either a conflict in the streets or a difference of opinion, the result of which was, that it is supposed a large body rushed out of the city towards our lines and were fired upon by our people from the trenches, as was very natural, for who could distinguish such a manœuvre from a sortie?

I have lost my horse, and am in great distress for the moment; but as he only cost me about sixpennyworth of tobacco, I will get over the loss. Yet I liked the poor brute, although I could not feed him as I loved him. He used to eat timber, araba carts, run after Turkish arabajees with mouth open, and occasionally I found his own blanket or cover half way down his throat, when I came out at night to see him, and sigh over his position and unhappy lot.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

During the Christmas session the Duke of Newcastle said that there was not a single day—unless it was the day when the first march from the place of disembarkation took place—when regular rations have not been supplied to the troops. In reply to this the *Daily News* Correspondent says it is notorious that ever since the 20th November a large part of the army has been on half-rations.

Habit, I suppose, has lessened the aversion with which the hostile pickets at first regarded each other, and now I am informed that between our men and the French and Muscovite guards as large an amount of politeness and small talk goes forward as the mutual ignorance of one another's language will permit. All parties agree that the English are bono, the French bono, and the Russians bono, but the Turks are condemned *nem. con.*

THE TURKISH EXPEDITION TO EUPATORIA.

The Varna correspondent of the *Daily News* describes the Turkish army destined for the Crimea, as it appeared on the 3rd of this month.—"The troops are all in the highest spirits; are delighted with the new clothing; and are shipped off in great numbers nearly every day for Eupatoria, cheering and singing very gaily, and confident they are sailing to victory, plunder, good pay, and what not. I am certain their morale has never been better. They are pleased at being relieved from their long inaction; and great numbers, particularly the Egyptians, are filled with the idea that once arrived in the Crimea they will be taken into English pay, and consequently find their pockets full of guineas, and their knapsacks crammed with coffee and tobacco, in an incredibly short space of time. The fact is, Omar Pasha is taking with him the best of his troops, both cavalry and infantry, the former in considerable force, under the command of Sir Stephen Lakeman. I refrain, for obvious reasons, from giving any details as to numbers, and artillery, &c.; but I must say, it will be the largest, best equipped, and best led army that Turkey has ever sent to a foreign soil since the long gone days of her glory. All the foreign officers in the Turkish service will be of the expedition: the troops are full of ardour. Omar Pasha has a great reputation at stake, a greater still to achieve; and, altogether, I see every reason to believe that the army of the Danube will show itself worthy to fight side by side with the heroes of Alma and Inkermann."

Under date, Varna, Jan. 10, the same writer says:—"Turning aside from the condition of the army, which is promising enough, to an inspection of its chiefs, a sad change comes over the spirit of one's dream, and one is often led to despair of Turkey, and imagine he sees that by a visible interposition of Providence she is to be delivered over, bound hand and foot, to her enemies. Once we take our eyes off Omar Pasha, in the whole herd of pashas to whom the safety of a large army and a mighty empire are committed, we see little but fraud, low cunning, rapacity, ignorance, stupidity, and cowardice, with scarcely a redeeming trait in the character of any one of them. There is a batch now collected here at Varna, which, in all the foregoing qualities, may, I am quite convinced, defy competition, and for what purpose they have been assembled I am wholly unable to say. I may mention here, *en passant*, that it is an undoubted fact that intrigues on a large scale are being carried on against Omar Pasha, the prime mover being one of the principal members of the present ministry; his supporters, half the old pashas in the country, and the *modus operandi* general and strenuous efforts to throw every obstacle in the way of the movement of the army, by holding back supplies, money, provisions, &c., hoping he may then come in

for the whole load of the blame. Omar Pasha arrived on Monday from the Crimea in the Inflexible. It appears the allied generals have promised him transports, and he is now about to hasten the embarkation of the army as much as possible."

An officer of H. M. S. Inflexible gives an interesting account of the trip of Omar Pasha to Balaklava and back to Varna to confer with the French and English commanders. A council of war was held on the 5th, and on the 8th the Muchir disembarked at Varna. "Altogether the trip was very pleasant, despite the boisterous, gloomy, wet, and snowy weather that we experienced. We were all charmed with his highness. He is a most winning man, so unaffectedly affable and kind, and is full of fun. Everyone I fancy must admire his public character; and all who have the honour of any acquaintance with him in private must respect and like him beyond measure. He paid us daily visits, and the day that he left he stayed nearly two hours with us. At our request he most kindly honoured each of us with his signature on a card, in German and Turkish, adding to the former, 'in remembrance of the Inflexible.'" The force of Eupatoria is estimated at about 10,000 troops, mostly Turks, and 40 guns. "The Turks at Eupatoria (says one writer) are in a very bad state. A captain of one of H. M. vessels, who has lately arrived, states that the place is blockaded by the Russians, and the Turks are perishing from cold and hunger. The enemy have driven all the cattle into the interior."

GERMANY AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

It is said that the military stipulations are agreed upon between the three Powers, although no military convention has, as yet, been concluded.

An important secret despatch of the Austrian government to the states of the German confederation, dated Jan. 14, has just been published. Count Buol commences by saying:—"We may still consider the adhesion of Prussia to the alliance concluded by the treaty of the 2nd of December as a probable eventuality, and for its part the Imperial Government will always consider it a duty to do everything in its power to put an end (one way or another) to the differences which, to its regret, unhappily now exist between the two great German Powers." But if otherwise, the agents of Austria at the German Courts are instructed to inquire, whether, in case all efforts to restore peace should fail, Austria may reckon upon their active co-operation,—that is, upon a body of troops being placed under the command of the Emperor. "The Imperial Court would, in such case, give the most solemn assurances to guarantee their territorial possessions and position against every eventuality, and, moreover, to grant them their share of advantages resulting from the war in proportion to the number of troops employed."

Baron von Usedom does not go to Paris. General Wedell, Governor of Luxemburg, will proceed on special mission from the King of Prussia to the French Emperor.

The *Independance Belge* says, it has reason to know that, although Prussia is determined to maintain its refusal to mobilise, at the Diet, yet that, if the demand of Austria obtains a majority, it (Prussia) will submit, and will mobilise its Federal contingent of 80,000 men.

The *Constitutionnel* contains a letter from Berlin, of an eminent statesman, giving it as the writer's own conviction, that all the sympathies of Prussia are with the Czar, and that on no account will she accede to the treaty of the 2nd of December. Prussia, however, is alarmed lest her seaports should be closely blockaded, which she has no means of preventing, by which a feeling against her will be created throughout the other parts of Germany.

SARDINIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

The *Moniteur* publishes the text of the military convention made by the Piedmontese Government with England and France. The King of Sardinia will provide a *corps d'armée* of 15,000 men, organised in five brigades, forming two divisions and a reserve brigade. He will keep up the numerical strength of this *corps d'armée* by the regular expedition of reinforcements. The Sardinian government will provide for the pay and provisioning of these troops. France and England guarantee the integrity of the Sardinian States, and will defend them against any attack during the war.

The expedition from Piedmont will leave for the Crimea towards the end of February. General La Marmora, Minister of War, will command it in chief. General Burando and Tutti will command the first two divisions that leave.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Great Britian has been taken up for the conveyance of troops to the Crimea.

The Czar has ordered the emission of assignats to the amount of 12,000,000 silver roubles.

Sir Colin Campbell the *Globe* points out as the successor of Lord Raglan.

From St. Petersburg the mercantile advices are more and more pacific, and the exchanges and funds there have improved.

It is stated that new and powerful fortifications, which the Russians have been permitted to raise at Odessa, nearly approach completion.

The allied cruisers have taken or laid an embargo on several vessels in the Black Sea laden with provisions and amunition for the Russian army.

The Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas arrived on the 9th at Nicolaieff, and proceeded forthwith on their journey to Sebastopol.

A proposition to mobilize the forces of the Confederation was brought before the Federal Diet of Frankfort on Thursday, by Austria. The proposition was opposed by Prussia. No decision was come to.

A number of wooden huts are to be forthwith conveyed to Heligoland, where her Majesty's Government are about to establish a military camp and depot to enrol men for the Foreign Legion.

The personal friends of the correspondents of English journals in the Crimea have been obliged to visit them in camp under cloud of night only, and at the risk of forfeiting all prospects of promotion.—*Daily News.*

The grand cross of the Hungarian order of St. Stephen, conferred on the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, makes that gentleman, according to the statutes of the order, an Austrian grandee of the first class, with the title of count.

Kurdistan is now in open revolt. Travellers are everywhere robbed, nor can the Government send any force into the country: the army of Asia is almost destroyed, and the conscription is powerless to raise troops in an almost exhausted country.

Notice has been issued at the Horse Guards, that, with a view to encourage enlistment in the army, her Majesty had increased the bounty to recruits in the cavalry to £10, and infantry to £8; in the Royal Marines recruits will now receive £8, and volunteers from the Militia £9.

The whole of the ships forming part of the Baltic fleet are required to be ready for service by the end of February, and to assemble in the Downs by the first week in March, where it is probable the fleet will be inspected by the Emperor and Empress of the French, *en route* from France to England to visit Queen Victoria.

In a letter to the *Times* on Mr. Sydney Herbert's quotations for his "History of the Peninsular War," Lieut.-General Napier says that the mutual praises of one another, and of their colleagues, by Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston, are like the compliments of undertakers over a dead body.

In consequence of the difficulty of filling up the ranks of the army, the Emperor of Russia has ordered that men shall be liable to the age of 37 instead of to that of 30, as heretofore. Those sons of aged or widowed parents hitherto exempted are also now ordered to serve, forming separate corps.

A decree of Napoleon III. has been published in a Bernese paper, from which it appears that two regiments of infantry are about to be formed in Switzerland, to constitute a second foreign legion, under the command of Colonel Ochsenbein, the leader of the famous free corps in the Sonderbund dispute, who has been made a French general of brigade.

The Black Sea, screw steamer, containing the submarine cable for the communication between Varna and Balaklava has been obliged to put into Harwich for repairs. Every means are being taken to get her to sea again with all possible expedition. She had on board a staff of 60 persons, who are to lay down the cable and complete the necessary works.

The French have in this campaign been supported almost entirely by the excellence of their military system, which, though it cannot create genius, can always insure a supply of men fit for the ordinary purposes of war. General Canrobert is said not to be a man of great talent, although the second in command: General Bosquet, undoubtedly is. But the excellence of the organization allows of individual mediocrity.—*Constantinople Correspondent of the Times.*

At the naval clubs a rumour is very current that, in consequence of the decision of the Admiralty not to continue Sir Charles Napier in command of the Baltic fleet, Rear-Admiral Martin, now admiral superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard, will be selected for that very onerous post, and that he will have under him, as second in command, Rear-Admiral Michael Seymour, who so ably and satisfactorily discharged the duties of captain of the fleet during the past season in the Baltic.

Mr. Nasmyth, we are told, is engaged at Patricroft in manufacturing a monster wrought iron gun, to send a huge shot four or five miles; and Mr. Whitworth is employing his great skill and scientific abilities in constructing improved rifles, to make them more efficacious and more certain instruments of destruction. The Emperor of the French is, moreover, causing a great floating battery to be built, to carry large guns and be itself invulnerable.

According to accounts from Odessa, stated to be derived from official sources and documents, the total number of men put *hors de combat* from the 28th of September (exclusive, consequently, of the defeat of the Alma) to the 27th of December, does not exceed 26,763, including prisoners taken, and deaths from disease or other causes not resulting from wounds. The following are the details:—

Killed, or died of wounds.....	7,301
Wounded.....	13,826
Prisoners.....	1,617
Died of disease, accident, &c.	4,019
Total.....	26,763

THE LIBEL CASE—DAVIES *v.* PRATT.

The end of this protracted inquiry is scarcely yet in sight. Two days of last week were occupied by Serjeant Wilkins' speech only. Two days have since been occupied in the examination of witnesses. The court then adjourned till this day, when further evidence will be adduced for the defence. After that, Mr. Ballantine has the right of reply, which he will probably exercise at considerable length.

The only important incident since our last report, in the examination of witnesses for the plaintiff, was the following:—The Rev. R. Ainslie having been called, Serjeant Wilkins desired that Mr. James, Q.C., and Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Ainslie's counsel on the former trial, should be sent for. Both the learned gentlemen came into court, and the examination proceeded. Mr. Ainslie, describing his first interview with Mr. Davies, said:—

There had been a board meeting on the Tuesday, and on Saturday evening I called on Mr. Davies in company with Mr. Forster, a member of the board. I saw Mrs. Davies there. She was not in the room when I went in. I asked Mr. Davies to let me see the Wellingborough letter. He did so, and I read it at the window. I believe Mrs. Davies was not in the room when I read it. I asked to see her, as I had a question to put to her. In consequence of what I said she handed me a packet of letters. I said, "Madam, will you allow me to see some of your husband's letters." She immediately handed them to me, and I said "I would scorn to look into any one of them." I have since read, I think, 116 letters from Mr. Davies to Mrs. Davies—every word of them. I looked into about thirteen of them before I published my pamphlet. After the last case had been before the arbitrator for seven days, I retired from the contest.

Serjeant Wilkins: Is that all you ask?

Mr. Ballantine: That is all.

Serjeant Wilkins: Then I do not ask Mr. Ainslie a question.

Mr. Ainslie: I am sorry for it; I should like to have told the whole truth.

Mr. Ballantine: Then, wait a moment. Having continued your defence of the action up to that point, what induced you to retire?

Serjeant Wilkins: I object to that question, and I have a right to object to it; but I will not object if I receive an explicit assurance from the other side that my learned friends on my right (Mr. James and Mr. Hawkins) will be permitted to give a full explanation of any matter arising out of this collateral issue.

Mr. Ballantine: Certainly, if in any statement which Mr. Ainslie may make the names of those gentlemen are mentioned, I shall offer no objection to their being called.

Serjeant Wilkins: Not only if their names be mentioned, but if any statement is made affecting their character as counsel. We know what was stated the other day, on which Mr. Beale thought he would be rather jocose in my absence.

Mr. Ballantine: I have no reason to suppose that anything will be said by Mr. Ainslie reflecting on the character of the learned gentlemen; but, if so, if anything should be said in the slightest reflecting on their character, or on the character of any one else, then I say not only that I should offer no objection, but that it would be most desirable that there should be an ample opportunity of explanation. If Mr. Serjeant Wilkins should, under any circumstances, wish to ask Mr. James any questions during the course of the case, I shall make no objection to his doing so. I shall take no technical objection.

Serjeant Wilkins (to the Arbitrator): Sir, on reflection, I object to the question altogether.

Mr. Balantine proceeded to argue that the question was one which could be legally put, an attempt having been made to prove that Mr. Ainslie having undertaken Mr. Davies's defence had abandoned it because he believed him guilty. He submitted it was fully competent for him to put any questions the answers to which would disprove that.

The Arbitrator did not see how they could enter on this collateral issue. He was most anxious to give the fullest latitude in a case of this nature, but when a formal objection was made to a question, he was bound to see if it could be legally put. He held that it could not.

Mr. Ballantine said he wished to put one question to Mr. Ainslie, as Mr. Brown, who had been his solicitor in the late case, was not present. When Mr. Davies accompanied him and Mr. Brown to Wellingborough, had he placed himself under their direction?

Mr. Ainslie: Perfectly so. He did whatever Mr. Brown desired him.

Mr. Ballantine: That is the plaintiff's case, Sir.

The learned Serjeant's speech is characterised by the *Daily News* report as "violent;" for which the reporter, and the press in general, were the next day lectured by the learned Serjeant. He began by describing the plaintiff's case as "impudent and infamous." The plaintiff had frequently complained of a lack of opportunity in setting himself right with the world, but when he looked at the means which had been adopted in order to accomplish that end, he would fearlessly say that, in his whole experience, he had never known such a case. The plaintiff was not in a position to bring such an action, for, according to his own admission, he was a self-convicted libeller. He was convicted of being so by a statement in that detestable pamphlet, the "Defence of the Innocent," which he had adopted. Stripping the case of the evidence of Mr. and Mrs. Davies, what did it amount to? He claimed Mr. Beale in aid of the defendant's case. He claimed Mrs. Cobb in aid of his case. He claimed Mr. Ainslie in aid of his case, for he would show before he sat down that no stronger evidence than Mr. Ainslie's could be given of the infamy of those whose cause he had—he believed from mistaken motives—advocated. What was the evidence in this case? The statements of two persons on their trial; he wished he could separate Mrs. Davies from it, for he truly pitied her, and it was pity alone for her which had prevented him from asking her any questions. What criminal, though perhaps with less a smile of congratulation on his face, anxious to liberate himself from the dock, and breathe the pure air of Heaven, would not act as Mr. Davies had on this trial? This man had dared to bring the grossest accusations against Dr. Tidman, against whom no finger had ever been raised. Dr. Tidman had a fault—it was the fault of having acted with too great leniency to him who now with base ingratitude became his accuser. His fault was that he "pity gave ere charity began;" that he had tolerated this man when he should have discarded him. He would prove from this pamphlet that Dr. Tidman was the best friend that Mr. Davies ever had—a far better friend than Mr. Ainslie ever had been to him. Dr. Tidman had no *amour propre* to gratify; he had no ambition to seek the reputation of a piquant sarcastic writer; he had no desire to become prominent amongst his brethren for litigation or discord. No; it was his desire to do honour to his God, and to promote peace among his fellowmen. Dr. Tidman had been appointed to his high office under circumstances most honourable to himself—he had enjoyed, for years, the confidence of the best in the land—against him, until this bold bad man had dared to do it, the finger of scorn had never been raised. Mr. Prout also held a high and confidential office—both were exemplary ministers

of the congregation to which they belonged. How had they been treated by this Mr. Davies—this man of yesterday, who might have pursued the obscure path marked out for him if he had not sought to obtain an unenviable notoriety by his infamy and his uncleanness? Was the Missionary Society, the ramifications of whose labours extended over all parts of the world—who, through good and evil report, had borne the glad tidings of the Gospel to those who were in darkness—who spent in their Christian labours £100,000 a-year—who were supported by the best and the most righteous in the land—was this society to be told that they had entrusted their interests to two of the worst of men? But the attempt which this Mr. Davies had made to disparage those gentlemen was rendered more infamous by his cowardice, for in his evidence he stated that he had objected to that passage, dictated by Mr. Ainslie, as libellous; and yet, knowing it to be libellous, he and his wife had signed it. Had Mr. Davies written the Greenwich letter? He had: *litera scripta manet.* Had he written the Wellingborough letter? He had. He had denied it, but a copy had been in his possession for eight months, and yet during that time he had never demanded the name of his accuser. Why, this whole address, purporting to be the address of Mr. and Mrs. Davies, was in itself an hypocrisy and a cheat. It had been sent to the world as the letter of Ebenezer Davies and Margaret Davies, but so completely was it the letter of Mr. Ainslie that he would not allow one hair of the head of his bantling to be touched. Dr. Campbell, the editor of the *British Banner*, had been taunted because he had not noticed those proceedings. Dr. Campbell had at length done so, in the discharge of a public duty. He was the slave of no man; and he had written the articles complained of as an independent editor would, free from all dictation. He would contend that, according to the pleas the plaintiff had made out the defendant's case; but in order to put an end to this man's mischief he would gratify his desire for notoriety. He would go step by step, and would convict him of the grossest perjury, the meanest duplicity, and the most infamous daring. He would prove it by his own letters. Beale, his own witness, had proved it. The learned arbitrator was asked to convict of perjury Dr. Tidman, Mr. Prout, Mr. Stacey, Mr. Vaughan, Professor Godwin, Mr. Holles, Mrs. Keep, a lady who was staying with her, her man-servant and her maid-servant, at the bidding of this man, who had the strongest motives to pervert the truth—to whom an adverse decision would be worse than death—who, by such a decision, instead of being regarded as a minister of religion would be stamped as a miscreant for life—who, from living a life of competency, would be reduced to beggary and want—who, from having associated with the best in the land, would have to seek refuge amidst the scum of the earth—a man who had every motive to exculpate himself at all risks—a man unequalled in cunning, which had supplied him with afterthoughts to justify his conduct. As to Mr. Stacey, the only imputation against him was, that he had read this letter lying on the floor. A filthy passage, deeply underscored, had attracted his eye, and he had read it. He would take an analogous case. Suppose this had been not a mission-house, but a banking-house, and a confidential clerk had found a letter from which it appeared that one trusted by the bank was embezzling its moneys, would he not have been not only justified, but bound to place the letter before his employers? Would a clerk in a banking-house who had thus acted have been characterised as a spy and an informer? And yet purity of mind in an establishment such as this was a greater *sine qua non* than even honesty in a banker's. When Mr. Stacey found that a man was going out to teach the Word of God to the negro—to the ignorant and to the dark—so impure and so lascivious in his mind that he could not even address his own wife except in terms the most loathsome—was he not justified in reading the letter? When the Caledonian Chapel was being built, it was Mr. Morley, and not Dr. Tidman, who had demanded an inquiry. Mr. Morley was a man of such wealth that he was above temptation—a man to whom the existence of Mr. Davies was no more than that of the fly which crawled upon the walls; but he was a member of a Christian church, and he could not permit a minister to whom suspicion attached to officiate. He would recommend to Mr. Ainslie, who was fond of proverbs, this proverb, "the fool pointeth to the stain in the carpet, the wise and good man hideth it with his mantle." Dr. Tidman was such a wise man; and even when the Wellingborough letter was shown to him; and when Mr. Davies hung his head, and could not deny its authorship; Dr. Tidman had, at his request, consented to serve on his committee. But what was the conduct of this man who had sworn the woman did not live who could accuse him of having approached her improperly? Did he say, "Where is the letter; show me my accuser, that I may throttle him?" No; he hung his head, and said, "I don't remember having written such a letter." Could such a thing be a question of memory? If it were a question of memory, it was a question of existence, for the fact that he could not remember it showed that the letter might have existed. If the unmitigated lie which this man now told were true, how flexible must have been his conscience—how abject, how mean his conduct, when it suited his purpose, and when, as he thought, he had by his visit to Wellingborough, encased himself in an impenetrable armour—how daring, how bold did he become, in declaring before his God that which he had feared to state to his fellow-man. He (Serjeant Wilkins) had been once struck by the language of a poor collier—a Primitive Methodist in Warwickshire, who, preaching to his congregation, had said, "My good friends, on taking up my Bible, I find that mercy is extended to every one. No! I am wrong; in no place do I find that mercy is extended to the hypocrite." That humble preacher was right. Mrs. Davies had still for her husband that affection which he might truly say had been her curse, but great indeed must be her faith and charity if she believed this gentleman could ever be an efficient minister of Christ. It was said that Dr. Tidman and others connected with the Mission-house wanted to hunt down Mr. Davies. His learned friend had exhausted all his vocabulary. He had described it as a letter of the most infamous description; and yet Mr. Davies for seven months had slept, eaten, and drunk on it. He had allowed his wife to rest under the stigma of having received it, and then he had said, "it may be mine, or it may not, but if mine, it has been Grahamed." The sin of Mr. Davies was bad, but his hypocrisy was worse. It was said by his learned counsel that Mr. Davies adhered to his statement that he had slept at Beale's. Mr. Davies had had recourse to quirks, cajoleries, and almost subornation, to induce poor Mr. Beall, who was his cat's-paw, to support him. There might be many who would still adhere to Mr. Davies. He knew not how far obstinacy would go—but this he did know, that if he made out that Mr. Davies had thus wilfully deceived Mr. Beale, he would be stamped for ever in the opinion of those whose opinion was worth having. As far as he knew himself, if he saw this man with any signs of compunction or repentance—if he saw him bowed down with shame, he would do all he could to raise him up, and so would those who were accused of being his enemies. He pitied his wife, but when he found this bad wicked man coming thus into a court of justice, on a question involving the very honour of heaven, then he would say that heaven and earth demanded his expulsion from his Church—for heaven refused such men, and earth could not benefit by him. God's justice and truth required that such a man should be excluded from God's vineyard—that he might no longer distract God's household, nor mislead God's people; and heaven forbid that from any mistaken notions of humanity such a man should be any longer permitted to pervert the simple and unwary. This "Defence of the Innocent" was a malignant, an uncharitable, and a persevering attack on persons who had become obnoxious to others—every one who had taken part in the conduct of these English Madiai had been insulted and maligned. The pamphlet was nine-tenths Ainslie and one-tenth Davies. Here was Mr. Ainslie, who, having made an apology in open court to Dr. Tidman on the former trial, was now siding and abetting Mr. Davies! Mr. Ainslie had attempted to explain his conduct by insinuating, in reference to the Bath affair, of which he (Serjeant Wilkins) had heard nothing until two or three days previous to the present investigation, that his learned friend Mr. James had said that he (Serjeant Wilkins) would "smash Mr. Davies in his cross-examination." Could it be believed that so obdurate, so obstinate, so pertinacious a man as Mr. Ainslie could have been influenced by such a statement, even if it could have been true? But neither Mr. James, Mr. Hawkins, nor himself, had heard one syllable in the matter for days after it was alluded to by Mr. Davies himself; and now he would say he was fully justified in stopping Mr. Ainslie's *cacoethes loquendi*, when he came into court prepared to pour forth his vituperations on men he hated, though he knew not why.

Most of the witnesses for the defence having been examined at the former trial, their evidence was read from the arbitrator's notes, and received by consent. Mr. Stacey, however, was re-examined; and varied from his former statement as to the hour of Mrs. Davies' alleged call at the Mission-house. "When I stated it was 4 o'clock, I did not attach much importance as to the hour. I have since thought the matter over a great deal. I think I gave the letter to Mrs. Davies before my dinner hour; and I dined between 1 and 2 o'clock. I cannot say the exact hour Mr. Davies called at the Mission-house. I think it was between 4 and 5. I stated at the Congregational Library that I had given the letter to Mrs Davies about an hour before I saw Mr. Davies."

Mr. Horley, of whom frequent mention has been made, was examined for the first time. He deposed to his knowledge of the plaintiff's handwriting. Under cross-examination he said:—

I was at Stacey's house last night. I was there about eight o'clock, and left about a quarter past nine. I went to see Mr. Stacey; to talk to him about different matters. Of course we talked about this affair. I wished to know when I was to be examined. I saw a report of what occurred here the day before. I did not see the report of the last trial. We spoke about what had occurred on this trial. We had no conversation about what evidence was to be given to-day. We had a conversation about dates. I asked Mr. Stacey to inform me the date I went to the Mission-house and the date I left. I have stated to Stacey, and I believe to the committee, that the Wellingborough letter was given to Mrs. Davis in the early part of the day on which it was found. I saw Mr. and Mrs. Davis about two o'clock on that day—they were both together. I don't know that they went away together. I was not examined before the Congregational Board. When Stacey showed me the letter I said, "I thought no man would have written such a letter, even to a prostitute." I am quite sure that letter was in Mr. Davies' handwriting. I did not see the letter picked up. I know a person of the name of Wickson, a meat salesman. I have never said to him, I believe, "that the place (the Mission-house) is enough to injure the religious principles of any young man that is there." I may have said so, but I believe I did not. Mr. Wickson may have heard me say "religious institutions were generally unfavourable to the growth of piety in young men," and with that I might have associated the Mission-house. I did not say "I should like to see some one come in with a mop dipped in the dirtiest mud in London, and mop the cravats of the whole lot of them."

Serjeant Wilkins: You say you have expressed your opinion that "religious institutions were generally unfavourable to the growth of piety in young men." What did you mean by that?

Witness: I meant this, that young people go into religious institutions with certain impressions, and there are frequently defections when circumstances come out; and this is one of them.

Serjeant Wilkins: Just so.

Among other witnesses for the defence were, Mrs. Keep and her servant, the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, and the Rev. Mr. Richardson. Nothing novel or important was brought out.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

There is no change to notice in the Court routine at Windsor. Amongst the visitors have been the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh and the Duke of Argyll. On Sunday, the Maharajah attended Divines ervice at the private chapel of the Castle. On Friday and again on Saturday evening the Earl of Aberdeen had an audience of the Queen. It is expected that the Court will return to Buckingham Palace about the 14th of February.

Cabinet Councils were held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

A large meeting of the Derby party was held on Saturday night, at Mr. Disraeli's residence.

It is stated that Sir Henry George Ward, G.C.M.G., now Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, is to succeed Sir George Anderson, K.C.B., in the government of Ceylon.

Baron Von Usedom left England on Saturday last.

Colonel the Hon. Robert Bruce has been appointed surveyor-general of the Ordnance, vice Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Lauderdale Maule, deceased.

The *Scotsman* denies that the Lord-Advocate is likely to be the new Scotch judge.

On Saturday, the Government balance-sheet presented to Parliament was published for the year ending the 5th January instant. In the year the income was £56,737,132 18s., and the expenditure £59,946,192 2s. 8d.; showing an excess of expenditure of £3,209,059 4s. 5d. The increased income tax produced in the year £7,456,025 2s. 8d. The balances in the Exchequer on the 5th January, 1854, were £4,485,229 18s. 4d., and on the 5th January instant £6,015,612 13s. 6d.

On the 24th of January, a Deputation from the Religious Tract Society, consisting of the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P.; the Rev. W. W. Champneys, M.A., Canon of St. Paul's; the Rev. M. H. Vine, B. A.; the Rev. John Weir; J. G. Hoare, Esq.; Joseph Gurney, Esq.; and Mr. Whitehorne, presented a memorial to Lord Clarendon on the subject of our Treatises with China, and their bearing on missionaries and distributors of the Scriptures and religious books and tracts. The aim of the memorial was to show that no persons but merchants and traders are protected by the British Treaties; and that missionaries and religious instructors are indebted for their privilege of residence, &c., to a clause in the French treaty of 1844, which expires in October, 1856. Lord Clarendon received the Deputation with great courtesy, and assured them that attention should be paid to the subject brought under his notice whenever a revision or renewal of the treaties should be under consideration.

A vacancy occurs in the representation of the Radnorshire boroughs by the recent sudden death of the Right Hon. Sir T. F. Lewis. The hon. gentleman expired suddenly on Monday last, at his seat, Harpton Court, near Presteigne. His son, Mr. G. C. Lewis, it is said, is looked forward to as being the gentleman likely to be brought forward to supply the vacant post. The excellence of his private character, his talent, his literary eminence, are such that will secure the support even of those who may differ politically from him, and therefore his return, it is thought, will be secured without opposition.—*From a Correspondent.*

Miscellaneous News.

The defendants in the recent trial respecting the Mountgarrett peerage and estates applied last week for a new trial: which was granted by the Irish Court of Exchequer, on Tuesday, on the ground that the judge had admitted improper evidence, and had misdirected the jury at the former trial.

A young lady, Miss Louisa Leslie Cumming, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Alexander Cumming, of Logie, Morayshire, met her death a few days ago at Cameron-house, Dumbartonshire. She had been staying there on a visit, and was in the act of dressing for dinner, when her under-garments came in contact with the fire, and before she could be relieved of the blazing clothing she was so severely scorched that she expired after suffering great agony.

The campaign against smoke has been so vigorously prosecuted in the City, that it is reported a very perceptible improvement of the atmosphere has followed in several localities. Messrs. Waterlow, printers, of London Wall, were the last offenders prosecuted: they seem to have striven earnestly, by adopting various plans, to prevent their furnace from creating annnoyance; and further time has been granted them ere a fine be inflicted.

It was but a short time since that a vacancy was created in the representation of Limerick by the death of Mr. Wyndham Goold. His remains had been scarcely laid in the grave ere an uncle, Mr. Michael Goold, died in London. A little later his sister-in-law (Lady Anna Maria Monsell) sank under the effects of a comparatively brief illness at St. Leonard's; and, to complete the sad record of mortality, a sister (Lady Gore Booth) expired on Tuesday morning week, at the town residence of her deceased relative, in Merrion-square.

Attempts to pass forged Bank of England notes on the continent appear at present to be numerous,

probably on account of the increased circulation caused by the war. A few days back mention was made of several unusually well executed specimens which had been remitted from Marseilles; and, according to advices from Frankfort, it appears that a Spaniard has just been arrested at that city, after having negotiated £200 with temporary success, and that a considerable sum of good money was found upon him, together with £20,000 in forged notes.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Sewers Commission, last week, Mr. Thwaites consented to modify his propositions; omitting all reference to the "Great London Drainage Scheme," and declaring that in the opinion of the Court, "the plan of low level sewers and branches, subject to an extension of the outlet to Plumstead Marshes, proposed by the late Mr. Frank Forster in conjunction with Mr. Robert Stephenson, is the best calculated to drain the district south of the Thames." This resolution was carried unanimously.

The Court of Common Council met on Tuesday, and took into consideration the recommendations of the recent Commission of Inquiry with respect to the reform of the Corporation. The Chairman of the Consolidated Committee thought it would be most prudent to propose the recommendations of the commission seriatim; and accordingly, he moved the first proposition, recommending the issue of a new charter embodying such of the provisions of existing charters, and such City customs, as might be deemed expedient. This was met by an amendment, moved by Mr. T. H. Fry, and seconded by Sir Peter Laurie, asserting that the said propositions were subversive of the charters, rights, and privileges of the citizens. Upon a division, Mr. Fry's amendment was carried by 59 to 40. Fifteen aldermen supported Mr. Fry; his opponents were all common councilmen. Before the original motion could be put, the Court adjourned; leaving the question still undecided.

Literature.

Detached Thoughts and Apophthegms, Extracted from some of the Writings of Archbishop WHATELEY. First Series. London: Blackader and Co.

THERE are very few authors whose writings would bear a search for thoughts so complete and sayings so pointed, that they could be readily detached from their context, and even gain by the severance in brilliance or in power of suggestion. There are fewer still, even of the most eminent and most voluminous, whose works would yield such a remarkable collection of fine things, pure and weighty as tried gold, as are contained in the little volume before us. We doubt whether as much real thought lies in any modern book of the size. Of course, as the compiler remarks, such a book is no exposition of the complete views of an author whose works consist of distinct and elaborate treatises, and who is "not one of those fragmentary writers who specially deal in insulated passages of wisdom and wit." Yet it is most justly anticipated that a favourable reception will be given by the public, to a selection of "the pregnant principles and suggestive thoughts," which are scattered up and down those treatises. The Archbishop deserves not only the compiler's thanks, but those of the world, for liberally permitting such a use of his writings: and the compiler himself has evinced such high qualities, in a most discerning, appreciative, and catholic-minded performance of his laudable task, that we doubt not he, in his turn, will be thanked both by the Archbishop and a numerous public.

We need not here speak of the characteristics of Dr. Whateley's mind, or the broad marks that distinguish him as a writer from all living divines and philosophers—and he *is* both. These "Detached Thoughts" bring out in the fulness of their power, his masculine sense, his keen acuteness, his grave humour, and his unequalled aptness at the imaginative and analogical illustration of the subjects he touches. He has not one of the most profound or subtle intellects; but certainly has the clearest, and one of the most comprehensive, among living theologians. All his knowledge and learning is thoroughly digested and assimilated; and his thought is transparent as the sunny ether, and hard as the diamond.

This first series of "Thoughts and Apophthegms" is devoted to the "Love of Truth in Religious Inquiry:" the second will consist of miscellaneous thoughts on a great variety of subjects. We have but to make a few extracts, and our readers will at once understand the value and interest of the book. It has all the charm of the winnowed table-talk of a prince of talkers; and all the calm earnestness and suggestiveness of ripened wisdom and wide experience. These praises have none of the formality of criticism; but they will not be suspected of the impudent absurdity of a petting patronage:—they are the sincere words of long-settled conviction, and of gratitude for many great and lasting benefits.

Indifference about Truth.

"All men wish to have truth on their side; but few to be on the side of truth."

"Some men, from supposing themselves to have *found* truth, take for granted that it was for truth they *were* seeking."

"Men miss truth more often from their indifference about it, than from intellectual incapacity."

"He who either cares not to be a lover of truth, or takes for granted that he is such, without taking any pains to acquire the habit, is not likely ever to acquire it."

"Men first make up their minds—and the smaller the mind the sooner made up—and then seek for reasons, and if they chance to stumble upon a good reason, of course they do not reject it. But though they are right, they are only right by chance."

"To be blind to the unsoundness of a principle till it produces *actually* all the ill effects that it can consistently lead to, is not to perceive which way the wind is blowing unless it blows a perfect gale."

"A self-evident and apparently insignificant truth, admitted under the guise of a truism, has not seldom been converted into a dogma of fearful importance. When the wooden horse has been introduced, it is found to contain armed men concealed within it."

"Men often speak contemptuously of over-exactness—of attending to minute and subtle distinctions; while these minute distinctions are exactly those which call for careful attention, in all who *would escape*, or detect, error. It is for want of attention to minute points that houses are robbed and set on fire. Burglars do not, in general, come and batter down the front door; but climb in at some window whose fastenings have been neglected; and an incendiary, or a careless servant, does not kindle a tar-barrel in the middle of a room, but leaves a lighted turf, or a candle snuff, in the thatch or in a heap of shavings."

"It is not enough to believe what you maintain, you must maintain what you believe; and maintain it, because you believe it."

The above thoughts are taken here and there from one chapter of these selections:—let us now give a few entirely isolated sayings:—

"Falsehood, like the dry-rot, flourishes the more in proportion as air and light is excluded."

"Truths dangerous indeed; Yes—and so are meat and drink; but who will therefore resolve to perish with hunger?"

"The judgment is like a pair of scales, and evidences like the weights; but the will holds the balance in its hand; and even a slight jerk will be sufficient, in many cases, to make the lighter scale appear the heavier."

"Men may succeed in saving themselves from actual doubt, without delivering themselves from reasons for doubt."

"Falsehood, like poison, will generally be rejected when administered alone; but when blended with wholesome ingredients, may be swallowed unperceived."

"Those who, having magnified into serious evils, by injudicious opposition, heresies in themselves insignificant, yet appeal to the magnitude of those evils to prove that their opposition was called for, act like unskilful physicians, who, when by violent remedies, they have aggravated a trifling disease into a dangerous one, urge the violence of the symptoms which they themselves have produced, in justification of their practice."

Again, here are a few examples of the wit, humour, and satire of the Archbishop, and of the service they are made to render to the illustration and enforcement of truth.

"Some persons follow the dictates of their conscience, only in the same sense in which a coachman may be said to follow the horses he is driving."

"The vulgar are apt to conclude that where a great deal is said, *something* must be true; and adopting that lazy contrivance for saving the trouble of thinking, splitting the difference, imagine they show a laudable caution in believing only *part* of what is said. This is to be as simple as the clown who thinks he has bought a great bargain of a Jew, because he has beat down the price from a guinea to a crown for some article that is not really worth a groat."

"Fancy, when once brought into religion, knows not where to stop. It is like one of those fiends in old stories which anyone could *raise*, but which, when raised, could never be kept within the magic circle."

"When people have resolved to shut their eyes, or to look only on one side, it is of little consequence how good their eyes may be."

"An anecdote is told of a gentleman, who, being entangled in the intricacies of the numberless windings of the deep and shady Devonshire lanes, trotted briskly on, in the hope that he should at length come to some house whose inhabitants would direct him, or to some more open spot from which he could take a survey of the different roads, and observe whither they led. He proceeded a long time in this manner, encouraged by observing, as he advanced, the prints of horses' feet, which indicated that he was in no unfrequented track: and these becoming continually more and more numerous, the further he went, he accordingly paid the less anxious attention to the bearings of the country, from increasing assurance that he was in the right way. But still he saw neither house nor human creature, and at length, the recurrence of the same objects by the road-side opened his eyes to the fact, that all this time, misled by the multitude of the turnings, he had been riding in a circle; and that the footmarks, the sight of which had so cheered him, were those of *his own horse*; their number, of course, increasing with every circuit he took. Had he not fortunately made this discovery, perhaps he might have been riding there now. Are not men in many parts of their conduct in life, liable thus to follow the track of their own footsteps, to set themselves an example,—and to flatter themselves that they are going right, from their conformity to their own presedent?"

"That is a dangerous cant, now-a-days heard so often—'There is *some* truth in so and so; and therefore it is the *mission* of him who holds it, *though united* with much error, to propagate the belief of his doctrines.' *Some* truth! yes; the serpent had some truth in what he said; the forbidden tree *was* a tree of knowledge. And there was some truth in Eve's reflections. It *was* 'pleasant to the eye' and desirable 'to make one wise.' Here was the love of the beautiful and of knowledge in the very first sin which was committed."

We cannot, we need not, make further quotations:—those already given will attract our readers to the volume itself, as one of the most rarely excellent pocket companions.

Sonnets on the War. By ALEXANDER SMITH, and by THE AUTHOR OF "*Balder*," and the "*Roman*." London: David Bogue.

POETS have ever sung of War; and not even the meekest disciple of Peace will deny that it is one, and one of the greatest, of the poet's proper themes. It furnishes "great actions:"—glorious courage, brilliant daring, magnanimous self-sacrifice, fortitude in suffering,—these break through the horrors of war and challenge the admiration of men; and of these the poet delights to sing. Two of our young poets have been aroused and inspired by the great deeds and tragic sufferings of the armies in the Crimea; and have united in the publication of the little volume of thirty-nine Sonnets now before us. The authorship of the sonnets severally is not made known; but we think it would be easy to assign correctly a considerable number of them to their author—either Alexander Smith, or Sydney Yendys, as the case might be. Some are very much better than others: but all are distinguished by the intensity and the singleness of purpose proper to the Sonnet. This particular form of poetical composition has not been employed much more successfully by any living poet than it is here,—Mrs. Barrett Browning being, in our estimation, the great and unapproached exception. The prominent incidents in the progress of the War have been selected by the brother-poets; and occasionally the same theme has a double treatment. There are, also, sonnets on various subjects merely *suggested* by the War; in which patriotic feeling, adoration of freedom, and sympathy with the "oppressed nationalities" of the continent, find expression. We strongly disapprove of the sentiments occasionally occurring; and a somewhat familiar and profane use of the greatest Name jars exceedingly on our feeling. This little volume is not unworthy of the powers of its authors, but is scarcely likely to add anything to their fame. The following extracts will represent it fairly.

Alma.

The Chasseurs spread like flame from crag to crag,
The lowering English silence was unbroke;
"Forward" sprung all our columns, and a shock
Of valour tingled to the dancing flag.
A wild cheer drowned the cannon. Blind with smoke,
Stumbling o'er rocks, shattered with shell and shot,
We staggered on. Our banner,—glorious rag,—
Is dashed to earth,—from dying hands 'tis caught,
Again 'tis foremost in the stern advance.
Hurrah! We see the faces of our foes!
A blinding gush of flame, a rank goes down,
A stifling vapour hides the bloody close.
Up springs the breeze; and lo! on Alma's crown
Stand sternly-lowering England and flushed France.

Vox Populi.

What if the Turk be foul or fair? Is 't known
That the sublime Samaritan of old
Withheld his hand till the bruised wretch had told
His creed? Your neighbour's roof is but a shed,
Yet if it he burns shall not the flame enfold
Your palace? Saving his, you save your own,
Oh, ye who fall that Liberty may stand,
The light of coming ages shines before
Upon your graves! Oh ye immortal band,
Whether ye wrestled with this Satan o'er
A dead dog, or the very living head
Of Freedom; every precious drop ye bled
Is holy. 'Tis not for his broken door
That the stern goodman shoots the burglar dead.

The Cavalry Charge.

Traveller on foreign ground, who'er thou art,
Tell the great tidings! They went down that day
A Legion, and came back from victory
Two hundred men and Glory! On the mart
Is this "*to lose*"? Yet, stranger, thou shalt say
These were our common Britons. 'Tis our way
In England. Aye, ye heavens! I saw them part
The Death Sea as an English dog leaps o'er
The rocks into the ocean. He goes in
Thick as a lion, and he comes out thin
As a starved wolf; but lo! he brings to shore
A life above his own, which when his heart
Bursts with that final effort, from the stones
Springs up and builds a temple o'er his bones.

We have said that there is a double treatmen of some incidents; here is the *second* sonnet on—

The Cavalry Charge.

We mourn them with remorseful tenderness,
And yet, methinks, our tears should be denied
By a proud effort. When they *so* have died,
What is a little breathing more or less?
"Woe's me! each bosom was a Russian targe."
"Who would not pay that priceless price to feel
The trampling thunder and the blaze of steel—
The terror and the splendour of the charge?"
"In vain that human thunderbolt was flung—
In vain 'twas shivered." "At the word they sprung
In one wild light of sword and gleaming corse,
And at the terrible beauty of their look
Death stood dismayed. Jove! how the cowards shook
When on them burst that hurricane of horse!"

And that we may exemplify those verses which have themes started by the War, rather than belonging to it, we give the following—addressed to America.

America.

Men say, Columbia, we shall hear thy guns.
But in what tongue shall be thy battle-cry?
Not that our sires did love in years gone by,
When all the Pilgrim fathers were little sons
In merrie homes of Englaunde! Back, and see
Thy satchelled ancestor! Behold, he runs
To mine, and, clasped, they tread the equal lea
To the same village-school, where side by side
They spell "Our Father." Hard by, the twin-pride
Of that grey hall whose ancient oriel gleams
Thro' yon baronial pines, with looks of light
Our sister-mothers sit beneath one tree.
Meanwhile our Shakspeare wanders past and dreams
His Helena and Hermia. Shall we fight?

The War; or Voices from the Rank. London: Routledge and Co.

THIS volume meets a confessed want, and an urgent demand of the public. For the first time in the history of War, the Camp has been in communication with Home, by means of the familiar correspondence of the men who know best the horrors of the battle-field. Perhaps England never had an army before, in which so much education, good sense, and right feeling could be found, as we now know has been sent to be cruelly wasted in the Crimea. Day by day, in the palace and in the cottage, the letters of our common soldiers have been read with swelling pride, that *these* are our countrymen, and our defenders,—although not without the blush of shame and an agony of sympathy. Every one, peace-men and all, wishes to have a permanent copy of these remarkable productions—so full of patriotism, self-sacrifice, high courage, and deep feeling. This volume collects them, thus far; and weaves them into a narrative, by the aid of the communications of the "special correspondents" who make so singular a figure at the seat of war, and are so signally serviceable in preventing the convenient burial of the crime and folly that our government, and some of the incompetent leaders of the Crimean expedition, have been guilty of. The book will surely find a universal public—and deserves it.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Poetical Works of Beattie Blair Falconer. T. Nichol.
Life of W. Etty, R.A. 2 Vols. D. Bogue.
Rambles through Normandy. Ibid.
Preacher on the Book of Common Prayer. Macmillan and Co.
Christmas Dawn. Ibid.
The Work of Christ in the World. Ibid.
Memoirs of James Montgomery. 2 Vols. Longman and Co.
The Traveller's Library. Part I and II. Ibid.
Tonga and the Friendly Isles. Hamilton and Co.
The Christian Life. J. Hogg.
Wolfaris Robot and other Papers. Constable and Co.
Tit for Tat. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.
Leaves from a Family Journal. Grombridge and Son.
Family Fables. Dean and Son.
Little Play of Mother Goose. Ibid.
Lays and Lyrics. A. Hall and Co.
The Prison opened. J. Snow.
Conversation: a Poem. Parker and Son.
Suggestions for Thoughtful Minds. W. Innes.
Ruth Hall. Houlston and Stoneman.
The Battle of Alma. R. Theobald.

Gleanings.

There has been a great mortality of late among persons who have reached an uncommon age.

Horace Vernet is just completing a splendid painting representing the celebration of mass at the French camp in the Crimea.

An enthusiastic patriot of Liverpool has given 10s. for a few hairs cut of Lord Cardigan's horse, which arrived there the other day.

Messrs. Hurst and Blackett have in the press new novels by Mrs. Gore, Mrs. Trollope, Miss Jewsbury, and the Author of "Sam Slick."

Miss Burdett Coutts has just given (unsolicited) £100 towards a girls' reformatory at Birmingham. She also proposes to supply clothing for twelve girls.

Dhuleep Singh, the young Christian Indian Prince, now sojourning in this country, has given a donation of £100 to the Church Missionary Society.

It is significant (says an Opposition wag) that the Order of the Garter is given to Lord Aberdeen at the moment when he has "not a leg to stand on."

Baxter's "*Saints' Rest*" has been printed in Modern Syriac. It forms a handsome duodecimo volume of 614 pages, and will be very useful to the pious Nestorians.

M. Kiss, of Berlin, is preparing to send his model of "George and the Dragon"—a companion group to the "Amazon"—to the Paris Exhibition.

A mine of Roman antiquities seems to have been discovered at the village of Whitton, near Ipswich. A tesselated pavement of some beauty and several walls have already been laid open.

Of every 100 tons of coals brought to London by rail, the Great Northern Railway brings 40¼, the North-Western 30¼, the Eastern Counties 20, the Great Western 5, and the South-Eastern 4.

When Walpole, in allusion to the sameness of the system of politics continued in the reign of George the Third, observed, "But there is nothing new under the sun." "No," said Selwyn, "nor under the *grandson*."

There is a rumour abroad, that Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt is likely to appear in a series of concerts of sacred music at Exeter Hall, during the forthcoming season, and that Mr. Mitchell, of Bond-street, is the *entrepreneur*.

Herr Wagner has consented to accept the post of conductor of the Philharmonic Concerts. The *Athenæum* describes the appointment "as nothing short of a wholesale offence to the native and foreign conductors resident in England."

The library of the late President of Magdalen College, Oxford, is, by a deed of gift made two years ago, conveyed to the Warden, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Durham. The library is said to comprehend nearly 20,000 volumes.

On Friday, M. Berryer was presented to the French Academy. In a few days the Parliamentary chief of the Legitimists, in his character of Academician, will be officially presented to Louis Napoleon, as Chief of the State, by M. Guizot, the last Minister of Louis Philippe.

Sir William Molesworth, when in Edinburgh lately, instructed the *savans* by his pronunciation of Sebastopol. He laid the accent on the penultimate syllable, calling it Sevastopol. The Russian letter "o," the third letter in the alphabet, is pronounced *vay*. The correct pronunciation is Sevaystòpol.

The Society of Arts have appointed a committee with the special aim of securing the material means for a vast movement of our artizan classes to and from Paris during the approaching summer,—and this committee announces that "cheap trips on an extensive scale to and from Paris, during the period of the Exhibition, at low fares, have been already organized."

Mr. Bowyer, inspector of schools, thus describes a "Midland" teacher:—"At my first visit the school was vacant. At my second I found a new mistress, whose ignorance surpassed anything within my experience. To the question, 'What remarkable event occurred when our Saviour was twelve years old?' she replied, 'I believe he was put in the bulrushes.'"

BIRTHS.

January 24th, at Tottenham, Mrs. J. DE KEWER WILLIAMS, of a son.

January 25th, at Dorchester, the wife of the Rev. GEORGE KERRY, of a daughter.

January 30th, at No. 15, Hill-street, Peckham, Surrey, the wife of Mr. WILLIAM FREEMAN, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

January 4th, at the Cathedral, Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Right Rev. HIBBERT BINNEY, D.D., Bishop of Nova Scotia, to MARY, daughter of the Hon. WILLIAM BLOWERS BLISS, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

January 23th, at St. Mary's-the-Less, Cambridge, by the Rev. Dr. PHILPOTT, Master of St. Catherine's Hall, the Rev. HENRY W. COOKSON, D.D., Master of St. Peter's College, to EMILY VALENCE, eldest daughter of the Rev. Dr. AINSLIE, Master of Pembroke College.

January 25th, at Prior Salford, by the Rev. S. Garrard, C. C. FRANCE, Esq., solicitor, of the Elm, Evesham, to MATILDA, eldest daughter of Rev. T. E. GARRARD, of Park Hall.

January 29th, at Wellingborough, Mr. EDWARD W. TUPPLEY, of Northampton, to EMMA, second daughter of Mr. HARRIS LEWIS, of Wellingborough.

DEATHS.

January 8th, at Constantinople, of cholera, after fifteen hours' illness, EDWARD BOURNE, Esq., Secretary to the African Steam Navigation Company, aged 33, deeply lamented.

January 16th, at her residence, in Camden-grove, Kensington, FANNY, relict of Lieutenant-Colonel ANDREW CLARKE, K.H., late Governor of Western Australia.

January 17th, aged 90, MARY, relict of the late Mr. GEORGE BENNAM, of Abingdon, Berks.

January 19th, at Brighton, HARRIET, Duchess Dowager of ROXBURGHE, aged 77.

January 19th, at Sudbury, Suffolk, Mr. JOHN HOLMAN, aged 81.

January 19th, at Boulogne, after a short illness, Sir JOHN BOYD, Bart., aged 68.

January 19th, at Hastings, the Rev. WILLIAM DAVIS, aged 66, years. One of the most worthy, respectable, and respected of Christian ministers. His whole course was a mild, firm, and intelligent consistency. He studied at Hoxton College; was ordained at the Croft Chapel, Hastings, Dec. 6th, 1818; happily settled with a co-pastor (Rev. George Stewart), Feb. 15th, 1834. Under the pressure of increasing infirmities, he resigned his charge on the 25th of October last.

January 19th, at the residence of her son, the Rev. J. Overbury, Pershore, Worcestershire, MARY, relict of the late WILLIAM OVERBURY, Esq., of Tetbury, Gloucestershire, in the 79th year of her age.

January 19th, at 2, Melville-street, Portobello, ELIZABETH, aged 28, wife of the Rev. W. ALLEN, late Baptist minister Newport, Monmouthshire.

January 20th, at Bowdon, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude, aged 44 years, Mr. WILLIAM MAYO, watchmaker, Manchester. He was highly respected by all who knew him, and is deeply regretted by his family.

January 20th, at Walmer-lodge, Deal, Rear-Admiral Sir JOHN HILL, Knight, in his 81st year.

January 21st, at Hull, suddenly, while in the act of commencing Divine service, in Waltham-street, Chapel, the Rev. JOSEPH BEAUMONT, in the 61st year of his age, and the 42nd of his ministry.

January 22nd, at Cambridge-square, Hyde-park, H. W. ALLEN, Esq., of Leadenhall-street, and Sevenoaks, Kent, aged 67.

January 22nd, at Brighton, General the Hon. ARTHUR PERCY UPTON, C. B., in his 78th year.

January 22nd, at Harpton, Radnorshire, the Right Hon. Sir T. FRANKLAND LEWIS, M.P., aged 74.

January 23rd, of chronic bronchitis, JOHN AMOS, Esq., of 12, Chatham-place, Hackney, aged 73.

January 23rd, at Herstmonceux Rectory, the Ven. Archdeacon HARE, aged, 59.

January 23rd, at her residence, Regent-square, in the 92nd year of her age, Mrs. SOPHIA COATES, formerly of Windsor.

January 23rd, at Southport, in the 92nd year of his age, the Rev. WM. ALEXANDER, (father of the Rev. John Alexander, of Norwich,) who for sixty years had been a faithful preacher of the Gospel, and whose labours were terminated by a peaceful departure to be with Christ.

January 24th, at Shiplake-house, Reading, in his 80th year, JOSEPH PHILLIMORE, Esq., D.C.L.

January 24th, at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw, aged 13, Lord JOHN MONTAGU HOBART KERR, youngest son of the late, and brother of the present Marquiss of Lothian.

January 24th, at Nottingham, JOHN CONDER, second son of Mr. THOMAS WHITTY, aged nine months.

January 25th, at Bridport, of bronchitis, ROBERT HENRY, the fourth child of Mr. THOMAS YOUNG, Baptist minister, aged one year and eight months.

January 25th, at Rydal Mount, DOROTHY WORDSWORTH, in her 84th year.

January 25th, of severe bronchitis, V. KNOX, Esq., Bencher of the Inner Temple, and Recorder of Saffron Walden, son of the Rev. Dr. VICESIMUS KNOX.

January 26th, of erysipelas, Mrs. PERKINS, of Brentwood, aged 63, at the house of her brother-in-law, Rev. G. LARKWORTHY SMITH, Bow-road.

January 26th, at the E.I. College, Haileybury, in the 64th year of his age, the Rev. RICHARD JONES, M.A., for nearly twenty years Professor of Political Economy and History in that College, late Tithe Commissioner, and one of Her Majesty's Charitable Trusts Commissioners.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—The full value of an admirable remedy—COD LIVER OIL—not only in Consumption, but in many other painful disorders, has hitherto not been so justly appreciated in England, as by our Continental neighbours,—practical experience having taught them its extraordinary efficacy in cases of Rheumatism, Gout, Bronchitis, Asthma, Rickets, Scrofula, and Cutaneous Diseases, and its superiority over every other medicine for the removal of General Debility in children and adults, and for the restoration of strength to the convalescent. Probably this error has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining Cod Liver Oil in a pure and genuine state—few articles being more ingeniously and extensively adulterated or tampered with. This obstacle is now fortunately removed by the introduction into this country of the celebrated Light Brown Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, whose indefatigable researches, during a period of fifteen years, have enabled him to detect the causes of the too frequent failures of this remedy, to discover its essential properties, and to supply an article ensuring the confidence of medical practitioners and their suffering patients. Sold in imperial Half Pint, Pint, and Quart Bottles with full directions for use, by Ansar, Harford, and Co., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's accredited Agents and Consignees, and may be obtained from all respectable Chemists and Druggists in the Kingdom.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

Neither the resignation of Lord John Russell, nor the defeat of the government appear to have had any very serious effect upon the Funds. A fall of ⅜ on the former, announcement was subsequently recovered. On Saturday there was an improvement which was not maintained on Monday. The result of last night's division in the House of Commons was at first a decline of ⅛, but prices have again advanced. Consols for Money are now quoted at 91⅛ to 91¼, and for the 8th of February, 91¼ to 91⅜; Reduced 3 per Cents. have improved to 91⅛, and the New 3 per Cents. to 91⅞. Bank Stock, 210 to 212½. India Bonds, 11s. to 14s. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; ditto Bonds, 99½. Money is in rather increased demand both in the Stock Exchange and out of doors.

Foreign Securities have been fairly supported, with little variation in prices. Brazilian 5 per Cents. are firm, at 100. Equador Bonds have been done at 41. Peruvian 4½ per Cents. 70¾. Portuguese 4 per Cents. are at 41½. Russian Four-and-Half per Cents. are rather flat at 89½. Sardinian Five per Cents., 86. Spanish 3 per Cents. Deferred, weak at 17¾. Turkish Bonds remain steady, at 76½ to 76¾ for Money, and 76¾ for account. Dutch 2½ per Cents. have been dealt in at 62¾.

The share market continues to evince considerable firmness, and prices in some instances are quoted at an advance. Caledonians are now at 62 for account. Great Northerns have been dealt in for account at 90¾; the A stock at 74, and the B stock at 126. Lancashire and Yorkshires are firm at 75½ for money, and ½ better for time. London and Blackwalls remain steady at 8. London and North Westerns are 5s. higher for Money, and 5s. weaker for Account. London and South Westerns have improved 5s. Midlands are ½ firmer. North Eastern (Berwicks), continue firm at 75½. Ditto (Yorks), 5s. higher. In French Shares there is no alteration.

There has been little doing in Mines or Banking Shares. Commercial of London are at 31½. London Chartered of Australia are 5s. firmer. Crystal Palace Shares 3½. Peel River, 2½ for money, and 2¾ for time.

There were further failures last week, which were however, confined to Liverpool and Scotland. At the former port, the most important is that of Messrs. Millers and Thompson, owners of the Golden Line of Packets to and from Australia. The advices from Liverpool and Manchester represent that the suspensions there and in London during the last fortnight have produced a very uncomfortable feeling. The absence of remittances from Australia is the chief cause of those difficulties in commercial circles.

The reports from the provincial towns during the past week show that business has been considerably affected by the existing political perplexities. At Manchester the markets have been very languid, and stocks are accumulating. In the Birmingham iron trade there has been no alteration; but an improvement is hoped for to prevent the necessity of a reduction in wages. As regards the general occupations of the place, the accounts are not favourable, and in the ornamental branches particularly a diminution of employment is observable. The Nottingham advices mention nothing new, but there is an increased disposition to suspend operations. Owing to individual opposition, the proposal for closing the warehouses on each Saturday afternoon seems likely to be defeated. In the woollen districts business has been limited, and the condition of politics at home, coupled with the position of commercial affairs in the United States, Canada, and Australia, has greatly stimulated the prevailing cautiousness, although prices continue to be well maintained. The Irish linen-markets are still heavy.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies last week comprised only three vessels—two to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 1,195 tons, and one to Sydney of 579 tons. Their total capacity was 1,774 tons. The rates of frieght continue to exhibit great depression.

The arrivals of specie amounted to about £655,000., against an export of £400. Thus the drain upon our metallic reserves has been very trifling, both by private hand and otherwise.

During the past week the following Railway dividends were announced:—Brighton, £3. 4s. per share; South Western at the rate of 5 per cent per annum; Manchester and Sheffield, 2s. 6d. per £100. stock; East Lancashire at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

The Railway calls for the month of February amount to £1,762,832., chiefly on account of Foreign lines.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satrdy.	Mondy.	Tuesd.
3 per Ct. Consols	91⅛ ⅛	91⅛ 90⅞	91 ⅛	91⅛ ⅛	91⅛	91⅛
Consols for Account	91⅛ ⅛	91⅛ ¼	91⅛ ¼	91⅛ ⅛	91⅛	91⅛
3 per Cent. Red	92⅛ ¾	91⅛ ⅜	91⅛ ¼	91⅛ ⅜	91⅜	91⅜
New 3 per Cent. Annuities	92 1⅞	91⅛ ⅝	91⅛ ⅜	91⅛ ⅝	91⅛	91⅞
India Stock	223	—	—	223	225	225
Bank Stock	212 10	212	210 12	212	212	212
Exchequer Bills	7 pm	7 pm	7 pm	4 pm	7 pm	7 pm
India Bonds	—	—	12 pm	—	14 pm	14 pm
Long Annuities	4 5-16	—	4 5-16	4⅜	4⅜	

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 20th day of January, 1855.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	25,509,215	Government Debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	11,509,215
		Silver Bullion	—
	£25,509,215		£25,509,215

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities — (including Dead Weight Annuity)	11,687,721
Rest	3,289,587	Other Securities	14,136,809
Public Deposits	2,257,197	Notes	5,465,880
Other Deposits	10,842,328	Gold and Silver Coin	655,090
Seven Day and other Bills	1,039,613		
	£31,951,505		£31,951,505

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 25th day of January, 1855.

Friday, January 26th, 1855.

BANKRUPTS.

Parsons, W. H., Gravel-lane, Southwark, millwright, February 8, March 8; solicitors, Messrs. Stevens and Satchell, Queen-street, Cheapside.

Nevison, Archibald, Darlington, Durham, hosier, February 3, March 17; solicitors, Mr. Reece, King-street, Finsbury-square; Mr. Mewburn, Darlington.

Hall, G., Brighton, upholsterer, February 3, March 17; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.

Palin, W. L., Mortlake, cooper, and Putney, licensed victualler, February 3, March 17; solicitors, Messrs. Shirreff and Sons, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

West, J. R., Canal-road, Kingsland, saw-mill proprietor, February 3, March 10; solicitors, Messrs. Stevens and Satchell, Queen-street, Cheapside.

Fairbrother, S. G., Bow-street, Covent-garden, printer, February 6, March 6; solicitor, Mr. West, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house.

Beck, R., Blackman-street, Southwark, watchmaker, February 6, March 6; solicitor, Mr. Crafter, Blackfriars-road.

Smith, G., Union-street, Southwark, hat manufacturer, February 10, March 16; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Sise-lane, Bucklersbury.

Phillips, H., Bethnal-green road, cornchandler, February 9, March 9; solicitors, Messrs. Stevens and Satchell, Queen-street, Cheapside; Messrs. Wittey and Son, Colchester.

Bradford, J., Coventry, licensed victualler, February 2, March 2; solicitors, Mr. Dewes, Coventry; Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

Davies, E. M., Pontypridd, grocer, February 7, March 6; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Girling, Bristol.

Ward, G., Bristol, victualler, and Clifton, lodginghouse-keeper, February 6, March 2; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Girling, Bristol.

Callard, R., Devonport, coach proprietor, February 5, March 5; solicitors, Messrs. Beer and Rundle, Devonport.

Milligan, W., Gandy, W., and Gandy, G., Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff merchants, February 16, March 16; solicitors, Messrs. Wavell, Philbrick, and Foster, Halifax.

Garrett, S., and Buckley, H., Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire, innkeepers, February 7, March 7; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

Waldson, J., Montgomery, innkeeper, February 7, March 5; solicitors, Mr. Yearsley, Welshpool; and Messrs. Rogerson and Peacock, Liverpool.

Shaw, J. W., Liverpool, passenger broker, February 9, March 5.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Gillan, A., Abernethy, farmer, February 2.
Robson, J., Leith, merchant, February 5.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Tanner, W., and Ward, J., Leadenhall-place, Leadenhall-market, and Leadenhall-street, leather factors, 4½d. on new proofs, (part of first div. of 5s.), on Thursday next, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street.—Dare, R. W., Lombard-street, shoe factor, first div. of 3d., on Wednesday next, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Howard, J., Norwich, butcher, first div. of 20s., on Wednesday next, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Bradshaw, W. O., Bolton-le-Moors, builder, first div. of 11d., on Tuesday, February 13, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester.—Sharp, S., and Middleton, W. L., Leeds, stone merchants, first div. of 3s. 6d., any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Marshall, W. L., Huddersfield, brewer, first div., on new proofs, of 1s. 9½d., any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Shaw, W. and H., Mold-green, near Huddersfield, dyers, first div. of 6s. 9d., any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Dove, J., Leeds, currier, third div. of 3½d., any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Lyth, F., York, builder, first div. of 6½d., on the separate estate, any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.

Tuesday, January 30th, 1855.

This "Gazette" contains notices that the following places have been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:—

Westbourne-grove Chapel, Kensington.
Roman Catholic Chapel, Dorsetshire.
Zion's Chapel, Market Weighton, Yorkshire.
St. Nicholas Tolentine, Bristol.
Percy Chapel, Walcot, Somersetshire.

BANKRUPTS.

Sullivan, R. D., Great Yarmouth, shipowner, February 8, March 8; solicitors, Messrs. Watson and Son, Moorgate-street Chambers.

Boys, G., Belitha Villas west, Barnsbury-park, wine merchant, February 8, March 9; solicitors, Messrs. Shearman and Slater, Great Tower-street.

Daniel, J., Bugbrook, Northamptonshire, coal merchant, February 10, March 16; solicitor, Mr. Melton, Bedford-row, Holborn.

Schwonke, W. R., Union-court, Old Broad-street, commission merchants, February 9; solicitors, Messrs. Hughes, Kersey, Masterman, and Hughes, Bucklesbury.

Raven, W. and J., Fish-street-hill, wholesale stationers, February 10; solicitor, Mr. Dyte, King's Bench-walk, Temple.

Masters, T., Crystal Palace Hotel and Beulah Hotel, Norwood, hotel-keeper, February 5, March 21; solicitor, Mr. Elmslie, Moorgate-street.

Hall, G., Brighton, upholster, February 3; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.

Hughes, W., Shelton, Staffordshire, builder, February 16, March 9; solicitors, Mr. Moxon, Hanley; and Mr. Smith, Birmingham.

Latimer, J., Newcastle under-Lyme, February 12, March 5; solicitors, Messrs. Hyatt and Dutton, Newcastle-under-Lyme; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Bailey, G., Walsall, innkeeper, February 16, March 9; solicitors, Mr. Watson, West Bromwich; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Grainger, W., Dudley, builder, February 12, March 5; solicitors, Mr. Watson, West Bromwich; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Owen, E. L., near Wolverhampton, mineral merchant, February 15, March 8; solicitors, Messrs. Hoyle and Marsh, Rotherham; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Phillips, J., Broadwinsor, Dorset, baker, February 8, March 8; solicitor, Mr. Lowman, Crewkerne; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

Harris, J., Torquay, grocer, February 6, March 6; solicitor, Mr. Daw, Exeter.

Ramsden, T., and Baxter, W. B., Bailiff-bridge, Yorkshire, worsted spinners, February 26, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Wavell, Philbrick, and Foster, Halifax.

Hodson, T. H., Peckforton, near Beeston, Cheshire, cattle dealer, February 13, March 5; solicitor, Mr. Banner, Liverpool.

Rennie, W., Johnson, J., Rankin, W., Liverpool, shipwrights; February 9, March 8; solicitor, Mr. Yeale, jun., Liverpool.

Sidebotham, J., Manchester, grocer, February 15, March 6; solicitor, Mr. Harding, Manchester.

Richardson, J., Manchester, umbrella manufacturer, February 15, March 16; solicitors, Messrs. Cobbett and Wheeler, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

M'Glashan, J., Glasgow, merchant, February 9.
M'Farlane, D., Oban, baker, February 12.
Low, J. B., and W., Arbroath, drapers, February 13.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Richardson, J., Wicks, J. S., and Smith, H., Upper Queen's-buildings, Brompton, upholsterers, first div. of 11s. 4d., and on the separate estate of J. S. Wicks, first div. of 20s., on Thursday next, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street—Tessel, O. E., Norwich, timber merchant, first div. of 3s. 6d., on Wednesday next, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Edward's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—Bate, W., Manchester, baker, first dividend of 1s. 7d., on Tuesday, February 20, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester—Green, E. B., Bilston, ironmonger, first dividend of 12s. 6d., any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham—Bray, H. B., Coventry, grocer, first div. of 2s. 10½d., on Thursday, February 8, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Mr. Bittleston's, Birmingham.—Thomas, E. B., Leominster, wine merchant, first div. of 3s. 3d., on further proof, on Thursday, February 8, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Mr. Bittleston's, Birmingham.—Osborne, J., Kidderminster, tailor, first div. of 1s. 5d., on Thursday, February 8, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Mr. Bittleston's, Birmingham.—Henderson, H., Liverpool, broker, first div. of 6s. 0½d., on the separate estate, on new proofs, on Wednesday, February 7, or any subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool.

Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, Monday, January 29, 1855.

The supply of Essex Wheat to-day was small, but large from Kent. The arrivals of foreign during the past week have likewise been considerable. No progress could be made with the sale of English Wheat without accepting 2s. to 3s. per qr. less than on Monday last, and some quantity was left unsold at the close of Market; holders of foreign were not disposed to accept a similar reduction, consequently, very little business was done. Norfolk Flour 2s. per sack lower. Barley dull and 1s. cheaper. Beans and Peas 1s. to 2s. lower and dull sale. The arrivals of foreign Oats having increased, the trade was slow and prices 6d. lower than on this day week. Linseed and Cakes without alteration. Tares met with but little enquiry.

BRITISH.

	s.	s.
Wheat—		
Essex and Kent, Red	70 to	74
Ditto White	72	80
Linc., Norfolk, & Yorkshire Red	—	—
Northumb. & Scotch	66	69
Rye	46	48
Barley malting (new)	34	36
Distilling	—	—
Malt (pale)	62	70
Beans, Mazagan	40	45
Ticks	—	—
Harrow	—	—
Pigeon	—	—
Peas, White	40	42
Grey	37	40
Maple	37	40
Boilers	42	44
Tares (English)	50	52
Foreign	50	60
Oats (English feed)	22	29
Flour, town made, per Sack, of 280 lbs.	50	70
Linseed, English	70	74
Baltic	60	62
Black Sea	64	68
Hempseed	40	44
Canaryseed	48	56
Cloverseed per cwt. of 112lbs. English	48	58
German	42	60
French	42	46
American	44	46
Linseed Cakes. £15 10 to £16 0		
Rape Cake £6 to £6 10 per ton		
Rapeseed £34 to £36 per last		

FOREIGN.

	s.	s.
Wheat—		
Dantzig	80	88
Konigsberg, Red	80	84
Pomeranian, Red	82	86
Rostock	82	86
Danish & Holstein	72	74
East Friesland	68	70
Petersburg	64	66
Riga and Archangel	58	60
Polish Odessa	66	76
Marianopoli	76	84
Taganrog	60	62
Egyptian	52	55
American (U.S.)	74	82
Barley Pomeranian	32	34
Konigsberg	—	—
Danish	32	34
East Friesland	28	30
Egyptian	24	26
Odessa	24	26
Beans—		
Horse	38	40
Pigeon	42	44
Egyptian	40	42
Peas, White	40	44
Oats—		
Dutch	24	28
Jahde	24	28
Danish	23	25
Danish yellow feed	26	30
Swedish	26	29
Petersburg	27	28
Flour, per bar. of 196 lbs.		
New York	37	43
Spanish per sack	62	63
Carraway Seed	32	34

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, January 29.

The show of foreign stock here to-day was limited, and in poor condition. Compared with Monday last, the arrivals of Beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts were on the increase; yet the supply of that description of stock was by no means extensive. Its quality, however, was prime; indeed, there were scarcely any inferior Beasts in the market. The attendance of buyers was tolerably good, yet the Beef trade was in a sluggish state, at Friday's decline in the quotations of 2d. ℔ 8lbs. The highest figure for Scots was 4s. 10d. ℔ 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,000 Scots and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 600 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 300 horned and polled Scots. For the time of year, about an average supply of Sheep was on offer, in good condition. On the whole the Mutton trade was firm, at prices fully equal to those obtained on this day se'nnight. The primest old Downs were worth quite 5s. ℔ 8lbs. Calves—the supply of which was very limited—moved off steadily, at full quotations, viz., from 4s. 8d. to 6s. ℔ 8lbs. The Pork trade was rather heavy. In prices, however, no change took place.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Coarse and inferior Beasts	3	4	3	6	Prime coarse woolled Sheep	4	4	4	8
Second quality do.	3	8	4	2	Prime South Down Sheep	4	10	5	0
Prime large Oxen	4	4	4	6	Large coarse Calves	4	8	5	4
Prime Scots, &c.	4	8	4	10	Prime small do.	5	6	6	0
Coarse and inferior Sheep	3	4	3	8	Large Hogs	3	8	4	0
Second quality do.	3	10	4	2	Neat small Porkers	4	2	4	4

Suckling Calves, 25s. to 30s.; and quarter-old store Pigs 20s. to 26s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 29.

The supplies of each kind of meat on sale in these markets continue seasonably good. The trade is not to say brisk; yet last week's prices are supported.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior Beef	3	2	3	4	Small Pork	4	0	4	4
Middling do.	3	6	3	8	Inferior Mutton	3	2	3	6
Prime large do.	3	10	4	0	Middling do.	3	8	4	6
Do. small do.	4	2	4	4	Prime do.	4	2	4	0
Large Pork	3	0	3	8	Veal	4	4	5	4

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—A respectable quantity of Irish butter changed hands last week. First Cork and prime mild Carlow, &c., realized 1s. to 2s. advance, and the best brands of Limerick 1s. The value of the middling and inferior sorts scarcely varied. The appearances at the close of the market were firm and healthy. Foreign was not quite so saleable. The price of Friesland gave way 2s.; but there was no noticeable alteration in other kinds. Bacon: The dealings in Irish and Hamburg singed sides were few and unimportant, and a decline of 1s. was submitted to, notwithstanding the extra quantity of pork required for army and navy supplies. Hams were a slow sale. Lard dull, and the turn cheaper.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

	s.		s.		s.		s.
Friesland per cwt.	114	to	116	Cheshire (new) per cwt.	66	to	80
Kiel	104		112	Chedder	68		80
Dorset	110		116	Double Gloucester	60		70
Carlow	100		104	Single do.	56		66
Waterford	94		102	York Hams (new)	80		86
Cork (new)	92		100	Westmoreland, do.	78		82
Limerick	92		96	Irish do.	68		78
Sligo	96		102	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	66		80
Fresh, per doz. 14s. 0d.			18s. 0d.	Do (green)	60		66

BREAD.—The prices of Wheaten Bread in the Metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; of Household, do., 8½d. to 9½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 29.—We have no arrivals to report either from the Continent or from Ireland. The receipts coastwise and by land-carriage, are very moderate, and the demand is steady, as follows: Scotch reds, 90s. to 105s.; Scotch Regents, 100s. to 115s.; York Regents, 110s. to 130s.; Lincolnshire do., 105s. to 120s. per ton.

SEEDS, Monday.—There has been a slight improvement in the sale for Linseed; the prices of which are fairly supported. The supply of Rapeseed is small, and held at extreme rates. Canary is firm; but not dearer. In Cloverseed so little is doing that the quotations are almost nominal. Cakes move off steadily at full prices.

COVENT GARDEN, SATURDAY, Jan. 27.—The supply of Vegetables this week is still limited, and high prices have been realised. Pears consist of Ne Plus Meuris, Beurré Rance, and Easter Beurré. Grapes are scarce, and bring good prices. Seville Oranges now fetch from 7s. to 12s. per hundred; common sorts realise from 3s. 6d. to 10s. per hundred. Chesnuts, 16s. to 20s. per bushel; Spanish Nuts, 14s. to 20s. per bushel; Barcelona, from 20s. to 24s.; French Almonds, 50s. per bushel, 56s. per cwt.; Kent Cobs, 180s. per 100 lbs.; and Brazil Nuts, 20s. per bushel. Cucumbers vary from 3s. to 5s. each. Spanish Onions may be bought for 3s. per dozen. Carrots and Turnips are scarcer. The trade for all kinds of Potatoes is still heavy, at 10s. per ton lower than last week's quotations. Lettuces fetch from 9d. to 1s. per score. Cut flowers consist of Passion flowers, Bignonia venusta, Tulips, Heliotropes, Euphorbia's, Poinsettias, Camellias, Chinese Primroses, Heaths, and Roses.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, January 29.—Our market has continued about the same during the past week, both as to demand and prices. The supply of fine Hops is but small; but there appears to be a preference for foreign Hops, caused, no doubt, by the lower prices at which they may be purchased.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The colonial Wool sales to be held next month will comprise 40,000 to 50,000 bales. A fair business is doing, however, at firm rates, owing to the good demand for English sorts. The imports last week were only 944 bales from the Cape of good Hope and 38 from Italy. Shearing having commenced in some parts of England, an increase in the supply of English Wool is anticipated. This circumstance, combined with the unfavourable advices from the manufacturing districts, has been productive of considerable inactivity in our market. We have no actual decline to notice in value, yet prices are supported with difficulty.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Down tegs	1	0	to	1	1
Half-breds	1	0	—	1	0½
Down Ewes	0	11	—	1	0
Kent Fleeces	1	0	—	1	0
Combing Skins	0	11	—	1	0
Flannel Wool	0	11	—	1	0
Blanket Wool	0	9	—	1	0
Leicester Fleeces	0	11½	—	1	0½

The next public sales of colonial Wool are fixed to commence on the 15th of February. The quantity arrived is about 20,000 bales, and any further supplies will be added that may be received meanwhile.

COALS, Monday.—Very heavy market, with little or nothing doing.—Rupier Grange, 24s. 6d.; Belmont, 21s.; Wylam, 19s.; Tanfield, 16s. 9d.; Hartley's, 19s.—29 fresh ships.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, January 29.—Since Monday last our market has been in an excited state, and prices have fluctuated to some extent. The highest quotation has been 58s. 6d., the lowest 55s. 6d. per cwt. To-day it has a rising tendency, 57s. per cwt. being the price for new Y. C. Town tallow 56s. net cash; rough fat 3s. 1d.

Particulars of Tallow.

	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Stock	47,820	56,770	43,664	36,700	36,119
Price of Y.C.	37s. 9d. to 0s. 0d.	36s. 0d. to 0s. 0d.	44s. 9d. to 0s. 0d.	63s. 9d. to 0s. 0d.	56s. 6d. to 0s. 0d.
Delivery last week	2,373	2,494	2,338	1,997	2,108
Ditto from 1st June	68,524	75,550	70,782	71,930	58,608
Arrived last week	574	20	2,254	379	3,421
Ditto from 1st June	90,330	95,786	73,809	68,315	55,127
Price of Town	39s. 6d.	39s. 6d.	46s. 6d.	64s. 9d.	58s. 9d.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, January 27.

			s.	d.		s.	d.	
Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.			0	3½	to	0	0	pr lb.
Ditto	64	72 lbs.	0	3½		0	3¾	"
Ditto	72	80 lbs.	0	3½		0	4	"
Ditto	80	88 lbs.	0	3½		0	0	"
Ditto	88	96 lbs.	0	4		0	4¼	"
Ditto	96	104 lbs.	0	4¼		0	4½	"
Ditto	104	112 lbs.	0	0		0	0	"
Ditto	Upwards		0	0		0	0	"
Horse Hides			5	6		0	0	each.
Calf Skins, light			2	0		3	0	"
Ditto full			6	6		0	0	"
Polled Sheep			6	6		7	6	"
Kents and Half Breds			5	3		6	0	"
Downs			4	2		5	2	"

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